

Read John 15:26 – 16:15:

John records for us the teaching of Jesus on the night before his death in his Gospel. In it we read Jesus teaching about another counsellor. What does this counsellor help us with? Being reminded of Jesus teaching, how might this help us in prayer?

What things should we pray for?

In Ephesians 6:18 Paul says to pray in the Spirit. What do you think Paul had in mind in the context of Ephesians 6? How does this fit in with what we have already studied?

Each week in your study in a group or alone it is important to conclude your time in prayer.

Study 5: **Prayer – Prayer and the Spirit.**
Sermon – 19th May 2024. (Pentecost)

Reading: Romans 8:14 - 27
John 15:26 – 16:15

Have you had a situation when you did not know what to pray? Or you felt you could not approach God?

Sunday 19 May 24 is Pentecost Sunday when we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit equips us for ministry, works in us in sanctification, indeed also works in us so we can see Jesus for who he really is, gives us confidence we are a child of God amongst other things.

In this study we are reflecting on how the Spirit helps us with prayer.

Can you think of a time when you felt the Spirit helped you in prayer?

Read Romans 8:14 - 27:

In v 14ff what does the Spirit tell us about our relationship with God. How does knowing this encourage us to pray?

We live in a fallen world, how might suffering discourage us in prayer?

How does the Spirit open our eyes to hope and help us to wait patiently?

Why does the context of future hope help us deal with this discouragement?

Have you experienced the Spirit helping when you have felt weak?

In your life when you have had on going difficulties, has this encouraged or discouraged you from praying? Why?

How does the Spirit in v26 help us in prayer?

In v22ff Paul writes about the creation groaning as well as ourselves. Why is it important to reflect on the fact that we are not the only ones facing difficulties?

Paul says the Spirit who searches our hearts knows the mind of God. How can this help us pray for the things God wants? When we still do not know what to pray, how does the Spirit take over? Is that encouraging to you?