

Romans 8:26-27

Romans 8 is filled with so much hope and promise! The ministry of the Holy Spirit is prominent throughout the chapter. The Holy Spirit's ministry to the believer includes 1) the ministry of regeneration (John 3:6), the ministry of sanctification (1 Peter 1:2), and the ministry of intercession (Romans 8:26-27). In Romans 8 we see the Holy Spirit:

- Frees us from sin and death (vs. 2-3)
- Enables us to fulfill God's law (v. 4)
- Changes our nature (vs. 5-11)
- Empowers for righteous living (vs. 12-13)
- Confirms our adoption as sons of God (vs. 14-16)
- Guarantees our inheritance in Christ (vs. 17-25)

As I shared last week, we "live with courage, wait with hope." We "groan" for the return of Christ and the ushering in of His eternal kingdom. All creation is leaning into and looking forward to the culmination of God's redemptive plan: the moment when God makes all things new. Creation groans, (8:19, 22); we groan (8:23-25).

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

- 1 Peter 1:3 (NASB95)

However, while we wait, we are not left alone, helpless. In Romans 8:26-27, Paul reminds us that we are sustained with hope because the Holy Spirit is our helper, our intercessor!



- 1. The Holy Spirit is our helper! (John 15:26, 16:7)
- 2. The Holy Spirit is our intercessor!

TAKE AWAY:

"The main point of the paragraph therefore emerges. Believers should take tremendous encouragement that the will of God is being fulfilled in their lives despite their weakness and inability to know what to pray for. God's will is not being frustrated because of the weakness of believers. It is being fulfilled because the Spirit is interceding for us and invariably receiving affirmative answers to his pleas." Tom Schreiner

- 1. Rest in the comfort; you are not alone!
- 2. Rest in the confidence; your hope is secure!
- 3. Rest in the assurance; God's will is being accomplished!