

Being Bold in Prayer

Romans 8:26 - 27 (NKJV)

One of the most unsettling experiences in life is illness, of course, both for the person who is sick as well as those who care about that person. Doctors and nurses are terrific, and yet, like the rest of us they are human, imperfect. Still, they take on some of the most difficult tasks of service to members of communities - healing an imperfect body that too often fights a recovery, at least a quick one. At such times, we have to trust medical professionals to know why we are sick and what we need in order to heal. We often believe differently about spiritual illnesses, where we are, for a time, weak, unwise, and in need of help. This passage in Romans speaks to that inability to help ourselves in the midst of spiritual, as well as physical, weakness or confusion. We pray, often in ways that reflect our lack of wisdom, confused over what is needed or how to heal. Like with a medical professional, we must trust that the Holy Spirit knows and intercedes. Except only the Spirit intercedes perfectly - speaks on our behalf to God despite our imperfections of prayer, finds the words that match our pains, and God hears us very clearly despite our not truly knowing what to do. God does for us what we may never understand because He gave us the Spirit to serve us well when we need God most. So if, at times, you're unsure about knowing how to pray when in great need, be both encouraged and certain that God hears you perfectly and will see to your needs according to His will in His time. The Spirit makes possible that God knows what's best for us.