

Session #2 (FEB 3): The Divine Dialogue: "The Problem of Prayer"

Romans 8

<sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

**1. Not sure WHAT to say or what to pray**

1 John 5:14–15 (NIV84)

<sup>14</sup> This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

*Anon.*

*The purpose of prayer is not to get man's will done in heaven, but to get God's will done on the earth.*

**2) If we aren't REALLY sure we are being heard why bother?**

1) Aligned prayer to His will - 1John 5

2) Posture or position with Him

Matthew 6:33–7:1 (NIV84)

<sup>33</sup> But seek first his kingdom (His will) and his righteousness (posture or position), and all these things will be given to you as well.

Proverbs 15:29

*The Lord is far from the wicked  
but he hears the prayer of the righteous.*

James 5:16b

*The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

James 5:16b

*The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*

Romans 3:22

*This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference,*

Philip. 3:9

*and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ--the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.*

**3) OR, if we are convinced we are heard, and our prayers are NOT “answered” ... why bother?**