PRAYER
PART 4 – *THE HOLY SPIRIT AND PRAYER*

Introduction:
1.   "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1).
2.   Prayer must be a priority and according to God's pattern.
3.   What role does God play in prayer?

I.   The Role of the Father in Prayer
        A.   As a Father, God promises to hear the prayers of His children (Luke 11:11-13).
        B.   God will answer our prayers with that which is best for us.

II.   The Role of the Son in Prayer
        A.   Prayer is offered in the name of (by the authority of) Jesus (John 16:23, 26-27).
        B.   Jesus is the one Mediator between God and man.
                1.   Mediator – *one who acts between two parties and belongs to both; one who intervenes between two, in order to make or restore peace*
                2.   1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 2:16-18; 4:14-16; 5:7-9
        C.   Jesus is an Intercessor between God and man.
                1.   Intercessor – *one who entreats or consults with one on behalf of another*
                2.   Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1; Romans 8:34
                3.   Anyone can be an intercessor (cf. Genesis 18:23-32; Exodus 32:7-14; etc.).

III.   The Role of the Holy Spirit in Prayer
        A.   The Holy Spirit is a person – a member of the Godhead.
        B.   Every non-miraculous work attributed to the Holy Spirit is also said to be done by the Word, save one – prayer.
        C.   The Holy Spirit is an Intercessor in our prayers.
                1.   Romans 8:15-28
                2.   Vs. 15-17 – *We are children of God*
                3.   Vs. 18-23 – *Yet, we live in a world of suffering*
                4.   Vs. 24-25 – *We are saved by hope*
                5.   Vs. 26-27 – *The Holy Spirit helps in our prayers*
                        a. He bears our burdens before God's throne.
                        b. God knows "the mind of the Spirit."
                        c. Thus, our prayers are heard and our struggles are known.
                6.   Vs. 28 – *All things work together for good*
        D.   The Christian has two Intercessors with the Father – ensuring our prayers are heard and in harmony with His will (cf. Revelation 5:8; 8:3-5).

Conclusion: Psalm 37:4-5

"Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass." (Psalm 37:4-5)