

Six Degrees of Separation: Our Prayer

Pastor John Marcott

St. Paul's Church / October 20, 2019

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. 27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27)

Christ has _____
Christ has _____
Christ will _____

We live in the tension of the _____ - _____ and the _____ - _____.

the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. (Romans 8:22-23)

_____ + _____.
Balance

When our prayers seem so _____.....we don't know how to pray.

When our prayers are _____....we don't know what to pray.

When we think prayer is _____.....we don't know how God relates.

.....we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us.....

I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me (Ps 57:2)

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²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27)

Christ has come

Christ has risen

Christ will come again

We live in the tension of the already and the not-yet.

the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. (Romans 8:22-23)

PATIENCE + EAGERNESS Balance

When our prayers seem so obvious.....we don't know how to pray.

When our prayers are misguided....we don't know what to pray.

When we think prayer is an automatic formula.....we don't know how God relates.

.....we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us.....

I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me (Ps 57:2)