

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 6:18, 1 Corinthians 14:15, Jude 1:20

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

						When and how does the Holy Spirit intercede (pray) for us?
						1 Co 14:4
						This help happens when we pray in the Spirit.
						1 Co 14:2

26 And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. NLT

Communion with God is probably our most important spiritual activity. Yet, we are not that good at it; we need help. That help comes from a person, not just a force. Persons use language. Of all people, Deaf people understand the need for an intercessor, someone who knows the heart of God.

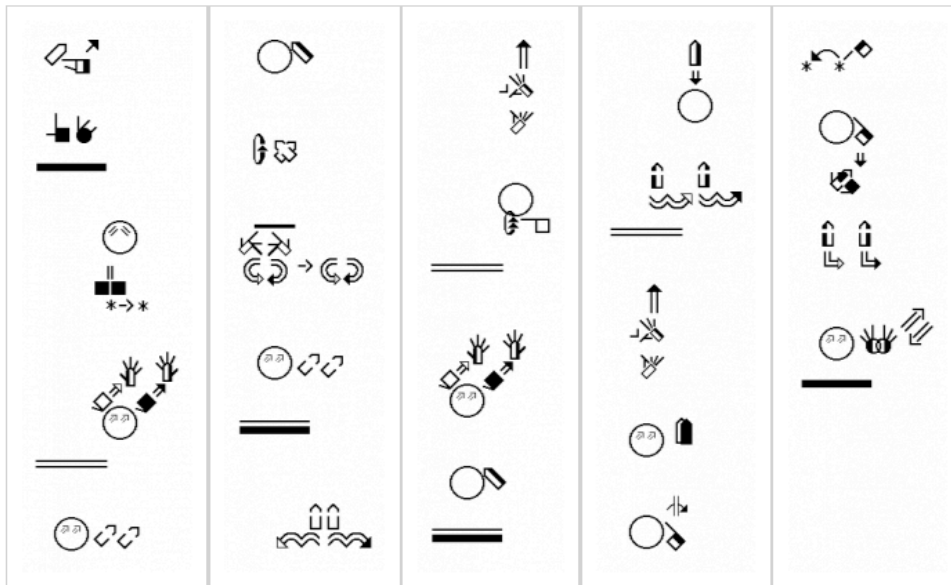
When we pray in tongues we are praying in the Spirit and the Spirit makes intercession for us. Some people go to court without a lawyer; wise people get representation, not because they know nothing but because an attorney knows the law. However, the lawyer still must also know us. If we don't talk to the lawyer he cannot help us very much.

In this letter Paul makes the assumption that his readers have the Holy Spirit, although he knows it might not be the case for some individuals. **(Acts 19:2, 8:14-15)**

The main point of this chapter seems to be assurance. Assurance of salvation **(1)**, assurance of overcoming the sinful nature **(9)**, assurance of resurrection **(11)**, assurance of adoption **(14, 23)**, assurance of an inheritance **(17)**, assurance of intercession **(27)**, and assurance of love and salvation **(28,30)**

There may be some people who may disagree that "groanings" implies speaking in tongues but that interpretation is not in harmony with **(1 Cor. 14)**.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.



Re 2:23, Jer 17:10

Trinitarian implications

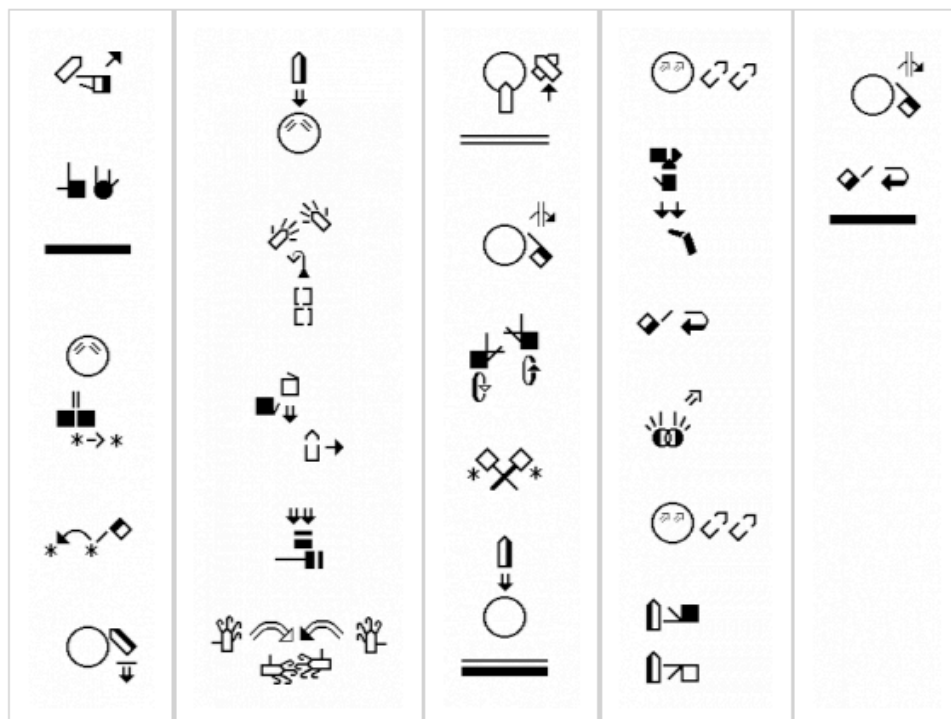
Saints need intercession.

27 And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

NLT

Now we cannot interpret these verses to mean praying according to God's will because Paul just said we do not know how to pray as we ought. Neither can it be that the Spirit is praying in some way we are not aware of, but it means the Spirit is praying in words, in a language we do not understand, but we are aware of the activity.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.



28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. *NLT*

“All things” can be understood in two:

1. Everything that happens to us was planned by God. Therefore we need not fear.

2. Whatever happens to us God can use it for His purposes and our good.