

We're talking about prayer. Galatians 4:6: *The Spirit of His Son* is such a beautiful, beautiful definition of Christ. Where is Christ's Spirit, according to this? In your heart. And what is Christ's Spirit doing? Sighing, "Abba, Father." Now go back again to Romans 8:15: *For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you have received the spirit of adoption whereby we cry, "Abba, Father," the Spirit itself bearing witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.* Brethren, what spirit cries Abba, Father here? The spirit of adoption does. Now, it's capitalized in the King James. Should it be capitalized? Thank you, brother. I don't think so. I would not argue with you, but I don't think so. The spirit of adoption, crying, whereby at least we know who does the crying. We cry. That's why, to me, it must be the human spirit. We cry, Abba Father. And who cries in Galatians? Christ cries, but where is Christ crying? In our hearts. The Spirit of the Son...the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Son...is in your heart crying Abba Father. At the same time, we are crying where? In the spirit of adoption, wherever that spirit is, we are crying Abba Father. Just a little bit more. We went over these verses before, but I have a feeling we need to go over them again.

Ephesians 6:17-18: *And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, praying always with all prayer and supplication in spirit; not in the Spirit, but in spirit. That has to be the human spirit. And watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.* Did you know that this passage of Scripture is an Old Testament quotation? You should know that. Didn't anybody mark it down?

Zechariah 12:7-11: *The Lord also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah. In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the Lord before them. And it shall come to pass in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour upon the house of David and upon the habitations of Jerusalem the spirit of grace and supplication. And they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him as one mourneth for his own son, his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him as one that is in bitterness of his firstborn. In that day shall there be a great morning in Jerusalem, as in the morning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Midian.*

Well, one more verse and then we will be bogged down enough to begin. The last verse in 2 Corinthians. Would somebody read that in a version other than King James? The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. The fellowship? Okay. Anything else? Well, the 'Edwards' version would probably say "the transportation of the Holy Spirit." Well, let's start with this verse. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Could you see God's love turned into grace and transported into you? Or could you see God as love, Christ as grace, and the Holy Spirit as the transportation? If you can see that, then you can see what this passage is saying. God's essence is transported to you just as a moving van moves something from one city to another. The Holy Spirit literally is the transportation. Of

God to us. And what does he always transport? Grace is the correct answer. And love is the correct answer. But what is grace? And what is love? *All of this is Christ.*

When we begin to realize what the Holy Spirit is doing, we get some real keys to this matter of prayer. God has a being, an essence. He is love. His love is expressed in Christ Jesus. Christ Jesus is transported into you as grace. Love becomes grace when it gets inside us, and it is transported by the Holy Spirit. He is the one who is in you.

God has said, "The hour and day will come that I will pour out upon my children grace and the spirit of grace and supplication." God has driven to you the spirit of grace and supplication. How can I express this? God poured out something in you...put in you the Spirit. Then He names two things that don't even sound alike. Think about it. He puts in grace. The Lord, like a surgical instrument, opens you up. And the day came when he poured out upon you the Spirit of grace and supplication. The Spirit of grace and supplication.

I should turn it around. He puts in you the Spirit. That Spirit is the Spirit of grace and supplication. Grace is something of the Lord Himself. His life, His essence, His Love.

But what does the grace do? Yes? I will give you the spirit. Let me say, "I will give you the automobile of going down the road and building." Have you ever seen one of these cars that has been riding on the land and then ...? "I will pour out to you an automobile of traveling and building. I will give you a spirit of grace and supplication."

What is supplication? Prayer! I will give you grace, which is something of the nature of Christ, and what will that grace do? Praise the Lord, brother, that grace will pray, yes, but supplication is a high compound of prayer. It is deeper than prayer. I don't think I can explain to you what it is. It is more than prayer, and all I can say is it is a supplication. It is a deep, deep prayer. That is supplication. It's something very deep. It's not light at all. You might say he was hurt, and then you might say he was crushed. That's a deep form of being hurt. He was happy; he was beside himself with joy. That's a deep kind of happiness. Supplication is a deep prayer.

The spirit within you is a spirit of grace and supplication. Now, in a minute, I trust that this will all fall into place. I think that Zechariah is so exciting in what it says. The Lord says, "In that hour and in that day, I will make the weak like David when I pour out the spirit of prayer and supplication." Then what will the strong be like? I believe I'd better quote this. You might think I'm fibbing. "In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and he that is feeble among them in that day shall be as David."

Now, what was David like? Was he feeble? No, we think of David slaying Goliath with a rock, but still, he was a pretty strong fellow to even throw a rock that hard. That's what the feeble will be. What will the strong be? Read the rest of it, someone. "And the house of David shall be as God." Wow. The feeble shall be as David, and the strong, those like David, shall be as God and the angels of God. When you touch this spirit, who is grace and supplication, if you're feeble, you will be strong. I'm just bogged down here explaining that to you. "And if

you're strong, you will be as God." Have you ever come, been so bushed, touched Christ, and walked away strong?

Have you ever been strong and touched the Lord? Now you know what you were at. When you are strong and touch the Lord, the blending comes. Have you ever put an avocado and an egg in a blender and turned it on? You have an egg-avocado. You've got something that's been completely homogenized. Now that you've got something homogenized. The cream and the milk are no longer separate. They are one. They shall be as God.

We have talked about this before, but I feel burdened to say it again. You sometimes pray, but at this very moment, it is the nature of Christ to pray. The Lord Jesus Christ is never ceasing in praying in you. "I will pour out the spirit of grace and supplication." Who is speaking? God! And how does God get himself into you? Transported by the Spirit. And what comes into you? The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. God the Father, as the very essence of love, turns Himself into Spirit so that he can be transported. He transports Himself into you as the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. And that grace of Christ, who is Christ, naturally prays. It is the nature of Christ to supplicate. You can say He is at the right hand of God, praying for you, but Romans 8 and Galatians 4 say He is in your heart, too. He, by his nature, is praying in you.

You have your own spirit. You have your own spirit, the human spirit. The human spirit cries out, "Father." Who else cries out, "Father?" There is one other person who can cry out, "Father." There are only two people who can cry out, "Father." The Lord Jesus Christ can cry out Father. Before you were saved, you could not call God "Father." The only way God can be your Father is to have His Life. Now, Jeff, you could never have your own human father's name without having his life. The only way he can be your father is for him to give you his life. Now you can say, "Father" because you have God's Life. Your spirit cries out, "Father." The Lord Jesus Christ is in you, praying all the time.

Now, what is human prayer? We've moved completely...what is religious prayer? What does it sound like? You say, "Lord, help me." And you say, "Lord, give me..." Those are terms that just... they've got to go. Amen. They've got to go. Lord, help me, and Lord, give me. I can give you a guarantee...a money-back guarantee, that God will never help you. In the Old Testament, you say, "God is my help." Praise the Lord, brothers and sisters. God is your help. But for the New Testament Christian, He is your Life. Why should you say, "God help me?" Is that, "God is my help?" No, that is, "God is my helper." "God is my servant, and He is my rescuer." "Lord, I'm in a mess now, help me." Now, I'd better be careful. There are a few times when you will really pray in the Spirit, "Lord help me," but you won't pray it often.

If you really pray much in the other Life, you will not often say, "God help me." And you will almost never say, "God give me." You will make very few requests, and they will be so serious, and they will be something that you will really feel the church needs to join you in because it's a serious matter. I don't know. Because I'm not here much, I don't know if there are times when someone says, "Will you all pray for my mother?" Or "will you all play for my sister?" I just got news so and so. Please leave that to the little group and for yourself

alone. If you have to do it, do it then. Don't do it in the meeting. I don't know if you do. Probably you don't. I don't know. I've never been around to see. Now, if it's this really urgent matter, you know what an urgent matter is. I brought up a matter in the meeting the last time I was here. They were going to have an operation in Guam for Jim Jr. to save his leg, and it was going to take place the next day. By the way, I'm sure you all got the report we sent down that Jim's leg was saved. I felt that was a serious matter, and I had no place to turn to. You were my church at that time because I was here with you. Well, you understand what I'm saying. God is not ever going to help you. Sandy, the Lord never helped you. "Lord, help me not to lose my temper." I give you a money-back guarantee: in the next 30 minutes, you're going to blow. That is not the Lord's way.

Alright, the other one is, "Lord, give me," or "Lord, I want." Do you not realize that God is in you? Do you not realize that Christ is *IN* you? I don't mean...I'm not speaking spiritually. In a practical way, who knows better what you need? You or the Lord? I'm not saying He knows what you need and you don't. I mean, if you're sitting there with a need that's basic and has to be met, well, He knows it better than you do. Do you not know that God is in you?

The Lord Jesus settled this in Matthew once and for all. "Behold the lilies. They don't toil, they don't spin, but did Solomon ever look that pretty? Behold the birds, they don't worry, and they don't stress, but My Father feeds them."

I've been so tempted to ask the Lord for things, and praise the Lord, sometimes I just have to do it, so I do. But I know better. When I was without a job, when I first moved to California, remember, this is a part of my life that most of you are not familiar with. I used to go out for interviews. Sometimes there would be a hundred people who applied, and maybe there was only one position, and they would get it down to 25, then to five. Each time, they would call fewer back for the next visit. Lots of times, I got down to the five-group, and sometimes I was down to one or two out of maybe a hundred people who had filled out applications. And I was going to go for that last interview when they would make their choice. Or maybe I had left the interview, and the choice was about to be made, and I'd come back to the house.

To show you the pressure of the thing...we had gone years without an income because I'd been in bed so long. Years. When I was an evangelist, I never dressed flashily, with one or two suits, not like most evangelists do, but I dressed well. I felt I had to. And through the years, I watched that beautiful wardrobe turn to thread. I had one suit left, the only suit I could wear for an interview. I wore that suit day and night for weeks and months...for a solid year while I looked for a job. Until, literally, in one interview I was sitting talking, I got up and the trousers ripped from one side to the other. I had to back out of the interview. I didn't realize this was so funny. I'm not telling it to be funny at all. It was a little funny, sure. Well, my wife took the trousers, and she sewed them from one end to the other. Now, I have... I have pride, just as any other human does, and I knew I had fallen a long, long, long way down from where I had once been. It didn't bother me because I had no desire to go back, but the situation was urgent, nonetheless. And no matter how much she sewed those

trousers up, they would not stay sewn because of the material. The material was frayed and would tear again.

I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that I have been where some of you are now. I have come home and wanted to pray, "Oh Lord, please let me have that job." I never did pray that prayer...not once. I'd come in and take my coat off, and I would sit down. I know exactly who the chair I would go to and I would sit down. I'd open my Bible, and maybe I'd read something, and I would groan with the one who groans within. And that's all I could do. The Lord wouldn't give me a single one of those jobs. Do you think I should have stopped looking? No. I had to look. The Bible says that "He who does not provide for his family is worse than an unbeliever." I had to look, and if I hadn't, the Lord could never worked out what he wanted because He kept eliminating. Finally, He got me right where He wanted me. Then there I had a marvelous revelation of what the Lord wanted me to do. I couldn't believe it. I was supposed to teach school. That's how I got into the school-teaching business. It never occurred to me to teach school.

Anyway, the Lord worked it out His way. I could not say to the Lord, "Lord, give me." I had to pray *with* Him. We have to leave the lesser things. It is not that we come to the Lord and tell Him what we need. If there is anything in that area, it is to come to the Lord and find out what He wants. If there is any need...find out what the Lord's need is.

The Spirit within us prays. What is the best prayer? What is real prayer? Brothers and sisters, if you could get anything about the nature of the Holy Spirit, what do you figure he is praying? Most of the time...the Lord is not legal either. What is he saying? Well, in a way, that might be true, but there is something even more than this. The Holy Spirit is praying something of Christ. Most of our prayer *will be Christ*. What do I mean? Do I mean, "O Lord Jesus, praise you, Lord Jesus. You are so sweet." Well, yes, to a large degree. Amen. I don't know, but some of you brothers said it tonight. When you come to share with one another, it's not so much what you share, it's the life you share it with. That ministers Christ Jesus.

Prayer is not coming and asking the Lord for things. It is not coming and telling the Lord your needs. It is not coming and saying, "help." Prayer is nothing more than opening yourself to the Lord that you might touch him. When you touch Him, oh, a thousand things happen, but mostly you sense Christ with all his riches. Any ministry of the Holy Spirit is always Christ. Now I'll get off the subject a little bit.

I can see in some of you developing a little bit in your sharing, a little bit of the gift of teaching. What should you teach, brother? Christ? No. If you teach Christ, you will teach a dead doctrine. I would say don't teach it all, but in whatever you say, make sure that the Life of Christ himself is ministered. That it is Christ himself. You don't teach *about* Christ. Teaching is so easy to do, especially when it is negative. "Brother David, I just don't feel like you are playing enough." "Brother Jeff, you've got to pray more." "The Bible says to pray. I'll show you where it says to pray. See...pray." "Brother, you've got to win souls." Is this ministering Christ? Don't get under the pile. If that's where you are, that's where you are. I'd rather see you do that than be quiet. That's the worst thing you can do. And I am not

important. I seek for the Lord, because you will begin to learn. A few years ago, this would have become dangerous. Some dear sister would have come up to you and said, "Oh, I really got blessed by that," and you would have gone out and bought six books. on what the Bible teaches about such and such, and you would have studied it more and more. But that's no longer true. We no longer need to do that. You will learn what it is to minister Jesus Christ. It will be He Himself that is ministered, and not about him.

Anyway, it's the same with prayer. There is only one thing that God is pleased in, and there's only one thing that God ever really lets come out...that's of him...and that is Jesus Christ. Your prayer may not be, "O Lord," it may not be "Lord Jesus, you're sweet," but I will tell you that prayer that is in the Spirit is something of the nature and life of Christ. I said to you once before: plug in... pipe into... tap the prayer that's going on inside you and join with it. There is a spirit in you, and that spirit is supplication...and that spirit is Christ. If it is not Christ, it is the spirit praying something of Christ. The Holy Spirit doesn't sit there and say to the Father, "Christ, Christ," but there is something of the nature of the Lord Jesus that is constantly being offered up.

What is our job, brothers and sisters? Our job is to come before the Lord and open ourselves before Him, and to Him, so that we can touch the Lord.

Now, let me close with some very pointed things. I want to say again that, as much as possible, don't get too involved with the use of your mind. A couple of brothers came to visit on Thursday, and on Friday morning, we got up and read some Scripture. I believe it was Psalm 42. We started off, and we were all feeling pretty good. We read verse 1: *As the hart pants after the water brooks, so pants my soul after thee, O God.* We enjoyed that. Then we got to the next verse. *My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; when shall I come and appear before the Lord?* So, when am I going to appear before the Lord? Lord, when am I going to appear before you? Then we read verse 3. *My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, 'Where is thy God?'* Lord, where are you? When we got to verse 5, it was time to quit. *Why are you cast down, O my soul?*

There are two or three things I would like to remark about here. That's really not what this Psalm is talking about. If you come to "why art thou cast down, O my soul," what shall you pray? There's very little left for you to pray. You cannot pray, "Lord, why is my soul cast down?" Do you know what that is? That's a question. Do you remember what brother Paul said to the sisters? He was so emphatic about it. "I forbid any woman to ask a question in the meeting." Sisters, I am going to be so bold tonight you won't believe it. Sisters, I say to you tonight, don't ever, ever ask a question in a meeting. I'm really putting you under law, and I'm putting you at the furthest end of it. If the building catches on fire, it's okay to say, "Where's the exit?" You know, something like, "Would you like a hymn book?" But to say, "Brothers, I've been down and out all week. Why am I down and out?"

Sisters, why should a sister never ask a question in a meeting? Because every brother will feel that he has to answer that question. I watched this in Mansfield, Ohio. There was a group there trying to have a meeting, and a sister asked a question. Every one of the

brothers felt duty-bound to answer. Even I was sitting there thinking...I had to catch myself. Forget it. All the brothers tried to pitch in and answer it.

I have just said to the sister, sisters...I have put all you sisters under the law, and I must do fair. A recent act of Congress says we cannot discriminate by gender. So, brothers, you may not ask questions in the meetings. Sisters, that's not the place to ask questions. If the brothers feel we need to learn some scriptures, we will have a special meeting to learn them. You can ask questions there, and let there be teaching. The meeting is not the place to ask questions. "I've been so out of it. Why does the Lord let us get this way?" Brothers, don't ask questions like that.

Do you know there is one answer to that? That is not reality. That is a shadow, and you are not living in reality. You may think you are cast down; your soul may be cast down, but David didn't know what we know, and he didn't have what we have. He didn't have what we've got. That's not where you belong, and you don't have the right or the business being there. When you come to this passage, "Why are you cast down, O my soul," get where reality is. You say, "Oh, hallelujah, my soul cannot be cast down. But my thinking can be cast down. Oh, my soul, listen really clearly. Do you hear me? You are not cast down!" There is no place in your praying for anything negative. We have just eliminated "Lord, help me." We have just eliminated "Lord, give me." Forget "Oh, Lord. I'm down, I need to be up."

I bring you back, brothers and sisters, to the ram's horn. They blew the proclamation that they had already won, and when they did, the walls fell down. You claim what is to be as what has been, and the walls fall down. You don't ask for a job; you can say, "Praise the Lord, you've met my needs, Father," even when your hands are empty. You've met my needs. You have even asked for a job. You have said, "Lord, you know my needs, and you have met them." Hallelujah. And you come, and you don't say, "Lord, I am cast down. Today I'm so sad and blue. Lord, raise me up." You come to the Lord, saying, "Listen, soul, you are not cast down. You have no right to be cast down. You must not be cast down because you're not cast down. Satan is what's cast down."

You've got to give up the future. "Lord, thank you that you're going to..." If you really learn this, things are going to really change. "Lord, we thank you that you're really going to..." That's got to go. Sure, there is a time to say thank you, Lord, for what you're going to do. Sometimes you come to the Lord, and you don't want to say, "Lord, I'm out of it." So, you say, "Lord, I thank you that you're going to give the church a strong spirit." Don't pray that, brothers. That would kill the meeting. You've got to pray where God is. He is on the throne. And where is Christ? Sometimes, you know, He's at the right hand, but he's also on the throne, and you know where that puts you.

But even if that's not where you are, if your position is so low that you're not on the throne with Him, it doesn't matter. He's on the throne. He is there. Tell me, where is Satan right now? He's roaming around. Now then, I'll ask the question again. From God's point of view, where is he? He is already frying. He is in the pit. Well, I'm explaining that our prayer needs to be greatly altered. No more "help," no more "give me," no more "Oh, Lord, why is my soul

cast down?" When you come across a scripture like that, you just say the opposite of that. "Oh, my soul, you are not cast down. Hallelujah!" Proclaim the victory, and the walls fall down. Praise God.

Now then, another thing. Brothers and sisters, I can declare to you tonight that you have not come into the fullness, and you are going to come into the fullness of this matter of lifting the Scripture to the Lord in prayer. I know that you're doing this in the mornings, but there is so much more of this. If there were not, I would leave it, but I say to you, there is so much more.

In the mornings when you're together with a couple of brothers, David starts off, "As the hart pants after the water brooks", and he is saying something to the Lord about that, and I'm thinking I've got the next line, and Paul's got for that line..." My tears have been my meat day and night." What does that mean? I don't even know what this brother is talking about. I'm trying to figure out where I'll read.

Or maybe I'm really standing with this brother, this brother, and this brother, but now it's my turn, and I know I'm here, and I look, and it's something about Maschil...you remember him? I'm probably never going to talk about him. Okay. So I skipped that verse. I'm going just to drop it out, and I'll come to the next verse. I come here and say, "Why are you cast down, oh my soul?" You've got verse 4, and I've got verse 5. So I'll just skip that. Verse 6, "My soul is cast down within me. Deep calls unto deep...what does that mean? Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness." I'll take that.

Sisters and brothers, do you *think* the word or *eat* the word? Tell me when the light was turned on, before the priest ate the word, or after he ate it. You don't remember what this means, "Why art thou cast down? This brother just got verse 4: *With a multitude that kept the holy day*. Along comes Mike, and I'm jealous of Mike, and he says, "Oh, Lord, I join in joy and praise. Lord, I joy in you right now. Praise the Lord, I'm with the multitude. I'm keeping the holy day. Hallelujah." And I'm just glaring at you. Mike is always lucky. I got "Why art thou cast down, oh my soul." Brothers, forget about what you were going to have to come here with. You just stand with Mike, and when you say, "Why art thou cast down, oh my soul," eat it. Just eat it. If you do not sense something, if there is no enlightenment, eat it anyway. It will be bitter in your mouth and sweet in your stomach. That's a scripture, in case you didn't know.

Say it! "Why art thou cast down, oh my soul?" And about that time, the light is going to turn on. "Hallelujah! It's not cast down! Praise the Lord! The Lord died for my soul. My soul is saved. I've been lifted up with the Lord, and I'm with him." Do you think you have to go along with that verse? You can say, "Poor David was cast down. I'm not cast down. I don't live in the days of David. David lived in the day of the soul. I live in the day of the Spirit. Brothers and sisters, don't you stand with any scripture in the Bible that is down.

After the resurrection of Jesus Christ (this is something the Lord showed me when I was very young as a Christian, and it has stayed with me many times), can you find anywhere in

the New Testament where anyone is pessimistic about anything? Now, stop and think about this. How would you like to be thrown in jail, and every church that you have raised up has got problems, and some of them have turned against you? They have utterly forsaken you and denied you as an apostle. Caesar hath proclaimed that you're going to be killed, and this decree is spreading throughout the whole earth. Would it not be time to seriously think that maybe this whole thing is going to crash and fall? You're going to be dead in a few hours. You should go back and read Philippians, when Paul wrote Philippians from jail. What a passage of Scripture. "If there be anything of good report, any worthwhile for it, any joy, any love, think on these things."

When he came down to his last days on earth, read 2 Timothy. "Well, Timothy, after all these years, and now look. Caesar is out against me. I have a church. Nobody stood with me. Only Luke was here, and the only reason he was here was that he figured he had to stay with his patient until he died. Everybody has turned against me, Timothy. Things are looking pretty bad." Go back and read 2 Timothy. Try to find pessimism after the resurrection. Down, but not out. Despair of life, but God, who raises the dead, is sufficient. In troubles often, but the Lord preserves you.

Strike off a negative cord, and then make it sing with a positive cord. Read 2nd Corinthians and watch Paul talk about some desolate thing. Hungry, never starved to death. Sick, but never dead. Can you find negatives? Is there a place in the church for negatives? For the defeated? There's no place in the Christian life for it.

What are you going to do next Sunday when a brother or sister comes in all defeated? "*Oh, man, it's been such a hard week.*" Are you going to write him a letter without signing your name? Let him be where he is. I'm not at this moment declaring that there should be nothing negative in the church here in Goleta, but I am saying to you that there should be nothing negative in the church. But we all have our days. If someone does, don't throw a rotten apple at him. On the other hand, realize it's not your heritage.

When you come to pray tomorrow morning, really bright and early, and you come to a passage of Scripture, here is how to pray together with the Scripture. Whatever passage you choose, jump in. One of you read something. If you don't have anything else to say, read it to the Lord...not to the brothers and the sisters. Read it to the Lord. If no light comes on, fine. Maybe another sister gets some light that you didn't get. Someone eats the bread, and the Lord turns the light on someone else. If no light turns on, are you going to sit there and wait? Silence is your deadly enemy in praying. Don't you dare wait. Pray whatever is next in the scripture. Pray it to the Lord. No light comes on. Alright, the third sister has to pray. Pray the third thing. Just in a moment, the light is going to turn on for someone, and you're going to pray the light to the Lord. And then another sister will see the light that the other sister saw.

Don't stop just because you're struck with a poor scripture. Offer it up to the Lord, and if something comes, OK; if not, great. But your prayer meeting should move so quickly. You

should be in there, just offering up to the Lord, right and left. Then you get the brother who quietly mumbles. Brother, you can't pray like that. We don't know what you're praying. Corinthians forbids anybody from praying in an unknown tongue, for the edification of others. Your mumbling won't help us a bit. If you can't do any better than that, say, "surely every man walketh in a vain show." Amen. Then, someone else has got to say, "Surely they are displayed in vain." Okay, nothing there. "And now Lord my hope is in Thee." Hallelujah, Lord. I'm not going to wait for vain things. Lord, my hope is not going to be in...Lord, today I was thinking about a new suit, and I don't know where to get a new suit. I don't have to look pretty for people. Hallelujah! My hope is in you, Lord. Maybe that's what the case is that day. You get a light.

Okay, some other sister didn't need to get a new suit, so she has to go to the next verse. "Deliver me from my transgressions. Oh, Lord, I've sinned." Now, what are you going to say? Hallelujah, Lord, are you going to deliver me? Hallelujah, Lord, deliver me? Hallelujah, I am delivered! Can you not see the difference? Do you not know that you're delivered? It's not in the future, it's not a request, it's not asking. It's the reality of what is in Christ.

My dear brothers and sisters, what have we said tonight? Praise the Lord, there is someone in you praying. The Lord has given your own spirit to pray with. Both spirits pray out to the Father all the time. Just learn to come, open yourself to the Lord, and pray in the Lord. Be in His Spirit, and you will be in prayer. Just learn to come and turn on your spirit, and you will be in the spirit of prayer. Don't ask for things; don't say, "Lord, help me;" but rather give up even the future, "Lord, you're going to," and give up the past, "Oh Lord, why is...?" and give up your questions. But there is the proclaiming. There is the praise. There is the thanking. When you come together to pray, pray quickly. If you're coming together to offer up the Scripture, and you should, because it is so rich, if you do this properly, it is so rich. Offer up whatever you get stuck with. If there's nothing more to be said, another brother or sister should quickly run to the rescue and offer whatever they are stuck with. If you're going in a circle, you know when it's your turn. You know. Nobody has to tell you. You've got to come and offer something to the Lord. In a moment or two, all of you will begin to move toward the Spirit. You will never move toward the Spirit while sitting there, quiet or mumbling to yourself. Speak quickly. In a moment, someone is going to see a light turn on, and if you all keep moving quickly, it's going to get really neat.

These are some beginnings. It's the same way in the meetings. In the meeting, it's not "Lord, we thank you, you're going to...," or "Lord, we need," or "Lord, help us." If you have the sense of praying that, turn that prayer immediately and say, "Thank you, Lord, you have," or "Thank you, Lord, you are," or "Thank you, Lord, I am." Make sure you pray in the Spirit. As Brother Don said, you cannot pray, "thank you god that everyone in Goleta just got saved."

Brothers and sisters, you have an anointing with him. You have a perfectly normal mind. You know what you cannot pray. You can pray, "Oh God, thank you that you have raised up a church to be the city here for an evil city to see. Thank you, Lord, that this city has seen your city. Thank you, Lord, that this city has seen your building. Thank you, Lord, that you have

built your church. Thank you, Lord, that you have built us together. Lord, you are building us together. Thank you, Lord, that we're more built today than yesterday."

Brothers, take God's view of these matters. Sisters, there is so much of this for us to learn. If you go back to the New Testament and try to find the kind of praying that we've prayed in the past, the only time you can find such a prayer, as far as I know, was when Peter was out on the water and said, "Lord, save me," and he meant physically. Some of the people who were lost said, "O Son of David, help me." But try to find a prayer among Christians that says "Lord I need," "Lord help me," or "Lord give."

The whole attitude of the prayer of the church is in the spirit of what the Lord wants to do. Praise the Lord. The Lord is bringing us into the deeper matters of prayer. The Lord is giving us real prayer.