

Children of God

By Mick Wells



"Mommy would you like me to pray for you?" questioned the little four-year-old girl upon learning that her mother was ill.

"That would be nice," responded her mother, "Go ahead."

The child proceeded -- "God is great, God is good, now we thank Thee for this food. Amen."

I was amused when a young lady where I work related this account of how her daughter had tried to help her the previous evening. It was clear that the toddler had prayed in the only way she knew how. It also reminded me of a promise in the Scriptures—

"...We do not know what we ought to pray, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 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."

-- Romans 8:26, 27 NIV

How often do we, as children of God, face situations where we don't know exactly what or how to pray? The most intensive prayer I ever prayed was simply a guttural scream to God as I drove away to the hospital for heart surgery, and watched my two little sons waving goodbye to me. God knew what I couldn't put into words.

Or perhaps we pray for what we believe is the solution to a problem only to find that the Lord responds to our need in a different or better way.

Where we can't seem to find the right words to pray--where we feel helpless to adequately express our needs, our desperation, or our gratitude to the Lord — He searches our heart, and the Holy Spirit pleads for us in accordance with God's will. The Psalmist tells us...

"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their cry."

-- Psalm 34:15 NIV

Do not hesitate to bring before the Lord your problems and needs — even if you feel inadequate to describe them. How blessed we are that He knows our hearts and our prayerful intentions, and even provides His Holy Spirit to help us!