

Hagin, Kenneth E.

The Art of Prayer

15. The Holy Spirit and Our Infirmities

This chapter unpacks Romans 8:26 — the Spirit helps our 'infirmities,' meaning our weakness or inability to produce prayer results on our own. It focuses on two specific weaknesses that hinder prayer: ignorance and dullness of perception. In both, the Holy Spirit is the divine Helper who fills the gap.

Key takeaways

- 'Infirmities' means want of strength — an inability to get results. Left alone, our weakness would ruin our praying, but the Spirit helps us.
- Ignorance is one such infirmity: we can't pray accurately for what we don't know. The remedy is to know God's will through His Word, which the Spirit brings to remembrance.
- God's will and God's Word are connected. Renew your mind with the Word so His view comes to mind first.
- Dullness of perception is another infirmity — being 'slow of heart.' The cure is the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, enlightening the eyes of our understanding.

- The Spirit teaches us directly in our spirits and also through God-appointed teachers. Don't limit how much you can learn from God.

Passages worth keeping

“Our infirmities would keep us from producing prayer results if it were not for our divine Helper, the Spirit of God.”

States the chapter's whole point — the Spirit compensates for our weakness in prayer.

Scripture referenced

- **Romans 8:26** -- The text: the Spirit helps our infirmities.
- **Hosea 4:6** -- People destroyed for lack of knowledge — why ignorance is dangerous.
- **Colossians 1:9** -- Paul's model prayer to be filled with knowledge of God's will.
- **John 14:26** -- The Spirit teaches and brings the Word to remembrance.
- **Ephesians 1:16-18** -- Prayer for the spirit of wisdom and enlightened understanding — the cure for dullness.