I Corinthians 2:10, 13 – "The Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God...comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

## THE HOLY SPIRIT AND PRAYER

Prayer is an interaction between our spirit, the Holy Spirit, and the Word of God. We need the illumination of the Spirit to understand the Word, and we need the leading of the Spirit and the Word to know how to pray. When we seek God through the sincerity of our spirit, the Holy Spirit will teach us by comparing "spiritual things with spiritual," i.e., by blending our spiritual desires with the truth of God's Word. Prayer outside the illumination of the Word is untrustworthy. That doesn't mean we must know a certain scripture to pray (although that helps). It does mean that if our prayers are not in harmony with the Word, there is no reason to believe God will hear them. Prayers led by the Spirit according the Word assure God will hear them (I John 5:14-15). Saturate yourself in God's Word. Read it. Meditate on it. Memorize it. If you are serious about learning to pray, go deep in the Word, and meditate until the Spirit teaches you. The Spirit and the Word are always in harmony. If you want to learn to pray God's way, the Holy Spirit will take you deeper into your relationship with Jesus. He will pierce your soul and your spirit with the truth. He will use the Word to discern the thoughts and intents of your heart. "Deep calls unto deep" (Psalm 42:7). Are you willing to go there?