

Romans 8:26 & Ephesians 6:18 "The Spirit Himself makes intercession for us" "Praying always...in the Spirit." Effective prayer is a response to the Word by faith and is offered in the Spirit. The Spirit initiates faith to pray and confirms faith in us as we pray. When we don't know how to pray or what to pray, the Spirit prays for us. Prayers for revival are ineffective without Holy Spirit directed prayer. He is the difference in prayers that are answered and prayers that aren't. Charles Finney, before he was saved, attended several prayer meetings and noticed that prayers weren't being answered. When a Christian asked to pray for him, he declined, commenting that God didn't answer their prayers. The day Finney was saved, he instantaneously became a man of prayer. He frequently rebuked Christians who prayed without answers. His revivals were a reflection of his belief in prayer. They are remembered for prayer as much as for preaching. Finney's Boston revival began with a prayer meeting that lasted for ten years. It expanded to prayer meetings around the nation. The meetings were led by laymen. At least 100,000 people were saved in prayer meetings between January and April of 1858. Intercessory prayer is difficult. We can't do it without the Spirit. He will lead us into prayer. He will lead us in prayer. He will lead us to faith. We can learn to be intercessors. It takes time, and work, and belief that God will honor us if we obey Him. Our faith grows as we pray, and we are filled with the Spirit of prayer when we obey. The call of revival is a call to prayer. HA