Our scripture this morning comes from Romans 8:26-27. While you’re finding that, three preachers were discussing the best position for prayer, while a powerline technician worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely best,” said the Methodist preacher. The Pentecostal shook his head, “No, I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven.” The Baptist shook his head, “You're both wrong! The most effective prayer position is lying, flat face down before God." The three looked at the repairman. “What do you say young man?” He smiled and said, “Fella’s, the best prayin' I ever did was hangin' upside down from a power pole.”

**Romans 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is,* because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of* God.**

 There is no testimony without there first being a test! During Wendy’s test, there were prayers unnumbered – I’ve no doubt there were days of desperation, days when Wendy didn’t even know what to pray for. She cried out and the Holy Spirit grabbed that raw emotion and took it before God.

 In verse 26, the word “helps” in the original text had the idea of two carrying a heavy load. But then the word “weaknesses” has the idea of being spiritually weak, too weak to move. Many times in prayer, we don’t know what to pray for. It’s not that we don’t know how. We don’t know enough to pray intelligently. We know the surface of what we see, but we don’t know the will of God. But we trust Him. We pray for His will to be done, as Jesus taught us to pray in Matthew 6 and as He demonstrated in Matthew 26 in the Garden.

The Spirit makes intercession – from Latin intercessio. We can feel confident living out Psalm 37:5 - Commityour way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring *it* to pass. We know that God searches our hearts, He hears the Holy Spirit abiding within us, and understands our needs, our desperation on a level we could never express.

Wendy didn’t know what God’s plan was, but she knows who God is. She studied her Bible, prayed and meditated, asked for guidance, and waited. She waited in Faith that God would work out the very best answer for her. That answer might have been for her to continue in her situation, that answer may have been a loss of job… nowhere in the Bible does it say that God will work out things like we want. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. All things work together for God’s purpose. His Will be done.

With 2019 upon us, we wait in Faith - Hebrews 11:1 says Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. We believe that God is working it all out for our very best. We believe that the Holy Spirit is interceding on our behalf and God is hearing our true hearts. We need not worry that what we’re saying is wrong.

God’s ultimate purpose is that we be transformed into the Spiritual likeness of His Son. Any prayer that interferes with that we can rest assured will not make it to God’s ears.