

A Loss For Words

Description

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Romans 8:18-30

Have you ever heard someone say, "I can't find the words!" It can mean something is indescribable or that the emotion is so overwhelming the words won't come.

Romans 8:26 presents a similar reality: When "we do not know what we ought to pray for . . . the Spirit himself intercedes for us." Paul is saying, "There will be times when we can't find words when we pray." What then? We can be encouraged, for we have help that comes from the Holy Spirit. His help takes us beyond ourselves to a realm of spiritual wrestling, the enclave of intercession, a world of "wordless groans."

I think of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus pouring out His soul to the Father, the Spirit taking raw spiritual passion and converting it into a submissive and obedient prayer.

Human words are often unable to adequately capture the struggle in spiritual places.

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