

November 14 Adult Spiritual Growth Class Synopsis

Unshakable Hope: Chapter 8: Christ is praying for you

In the storms of your life, do you believe that Jesus is interceding for you with the Father during those times? If so, how does it affect the way you deal with the storm? If not, how can it change the way you walk through those difficult times?

We can find hope and peace in knowing that Christ Jesus is at the right hand of God interceding for us in prayer (*Romans 8:34*). Jesus did not go to heaven after His earthly ministry and “take a break”. Our Heavenly Lord continues to be Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, and Light in the darkness. *Hebrews 7:25* tells us that *He is able, once and forever, to save completely those who come to God through Him and that He lives forever to intercede with God on our behalf*. If when humble, despised, dying, and dead, He had the power to accomplish so great a work as reconciling us to God, how much more may we expect that He will be able to keep us now that He is our living, exalted, and triumphant Redeemer, raised to life and interceding on our behalf before the throne of God.¹

Scripture shows us that prayer was a significant part of Jesus’ life here on earth (*Luke 6:12*, *Mark 14:32*, *Matthew 26:36*). Jesus spent considerable time alone with His Father. We know that He prayed for little children (*Matthew 19:13*) and He prayed for Peter’s faith to remain strong (*Luke 22:32*). Jesus is our “Advocate with the Father” (*1 John 2:1*), standing in our place before the Father and pleads on our behalf.

In *Matthew 14:23*, upon sending the multitudes away after feeding them and telling the disciples to go ahead of Him by boat across the Sea of Galilee, Jesus goes up on the mountain by Himself to pray. He does not forget them, but from His high ground keeps an eye on their plight as they are buffeted by the wind and waves. Shortly before dawn, in their great peril, Jesus, knowing their predicament and their struggle, walks out to them on the water. They fear they have seen a ghost, but they hear Jesus saying, “Take courage. It is I. Don’t be afraid.” Peter, still in doubt, says “Lord, if it’s you, tell me to come to you on the water”. Jesus says, “Come”. Peter, walking on the water, begins to sink when he takes his eyes off of Jesus, and is frightened, when seeing the wind and waves. Jesus catches Peter, saying, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” It is at this point, that Scripture says that the disciples began to worship Jesus as the Son of God.

So, it is with us. Jesus keeps an eye on us from his Heavenly throne, interceding in prayer when our faith is tested by the doubt and fear that the storms of life bring. His prayer is one of a greater purpose, i.e., to make us holy and to know Him in a greater way.

We can expect that Jesus’ intercessory, heavenly prayers for us, even now, reflect those he prayed in *John 17* for his disciples and “for those who will believe in me through their message”, i.e.,

- To know God and His Son, Jesus Christ (verse 3)
- To be protected from apostasy (falling away or even loss of faith) (verse 11)
- To be one in spirit as the Father and Son are one (verse 11)
- To be filled with His joy (verse 13)
- To be kept from the evil one (verse 15)
- To be sanctified through God’s Word (verse 17)
- To remain unified in Christ throughout the generations (verses 20–21)
- To let our love convey Christ’s message to the world (verse 23)

- To join Him in heaven for all eternity (verse 24)
- To experience the same kind of love for each other that the Father and Son share (verse 26)

Despite what we may face in this life, we can live with the confident assurance that, if we belong to Jesus, He is always praying for us. Jesus' prayers for us are unceasing, always perfect, always delivering, always making a Way.

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through Him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. (2 Corinthians 1:20-22)

¹ Albert Barnes Bible Commentary- Romans 5:10

A song to reflect and pray on:

[My Prayer For You \(Official Lyric Video\) - Alisa Turner - YouTube](#)

Looking ahead – Sunday November 21

Chapter 9 – No Condemnation

God's Promise

Romans 8:1

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.