



# TOGETHER *In* PRAYER

Thursday, March 11, 2021

8am–8pm (Each Time Zone)

**As we pause and pray for our world, those near and far, we want to hear the voice of God's Spirit. God, open our eyes, our ears, our hearts to your Spirit. Amen.**

**A Prayer for Hearing the Voice of the Holy Spirit (Scotty Smith, *Everyday Prayers*, p. 240).**

*For You did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Aba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. (Romans 8:15-16)*

**Gracious Father,** on any given day a number of voices contend for our attention. There are the voices of the past, sometimes yammering loudly, sometimes just nickeling-and-diming our peace away with the refrain "You still don't have a clue, do you? You haven't changed one bit. Why would God ever love someone like you? Didn't I tell you you'd never amount to much? If people really knew who you are."

Then there are the voices of the present, often hijacked by our defeated enemy, Satan. His incessant scheme is to tempt, seduce, then accuse us - doing everything possible to rob us of our enjoyment of the gospel. Sometimes he shouts; more often he whispers; always he's conniving and always he's condemning.

Then there are the voices from the future, usually fuelling our fears with suggestions like "You're not as sharp as you used to be, are you? You'll probably be forgotten, won't you? You'll eventually end up alone, right? Why do you think God would let someone like you into heaven?"

**But then there's the voice of the Holy Spirit.**

*Oh, how we praise you for that one voice that transcends and trumps every other voice - the gossip of the gospel, the herald of our healing, the bearer of beauty, the messenger of mercy, the singer of sanity, the cantor of Christ - God the Holy Spirit testifying with our spirits that we are your bought, belonging, and beloved children. How we praise you for the ministry of the Holy Spirit.*

Abba, Father, by the Spirit of sonship, continue to free us from all our slavish fears - past, present, and future. May the Spirit speak so loudly that every dark voice is muted. May he speak so clearly that every deceiving lie is silenced. May he speak so convincingly that every paralyzing doubt is routed. We pray expectantly, in Jesus' tender and triumphant name. Amen.



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God we are experiencing a storm. It seems noisy. We can be brought low by choosing to focus on the voice of the nay-sayer. Help us hear you. Help us focussing on what will happen once the storm has passed, give us strength to overcome moments of doubt and fear. The Spirit of God says, "Prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed" (1 Peter 1:13). Therefore, we pray, "come revealing" a line in a beloved Salvation Army song.

*In the secret of Thy presence, Where the pure in heart may dwell,  
Are the springs of sacred service and a power that none can tell.  
There my love must bring its offering, there my heart must yield its praise,  
And the Lord will **come, revealing** All the secrets of His ways.*

*Prayer is dwelling... In the secret of Thy presence...*