

*July 15, 2012*

**SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**

*Of Princeton, New Jersey*

Jesus Christ

For by Him were all things created,  
that are in heaven, and that are in earth,  
visible and invisible ...

And He is before all things,  
and by Him all things consist.  
- Colossians 1:16-17

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday: 10:15 AM Bible Class  
11:00 AM Morning Service  
Thursday: 7:30 PM Mid-week Service

**WEB ADDRESS**

Be sure to bookmark our website for daily articles and audio messages:  
[www.FreeGraceMedia.com](http://www.FreeGraceMedia.com)

**WEEKLY MEETING LOCATION**

Rocky Hill Firehouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
150 Washington Street  
Rocky Hill, NJ 08553

**MAILING ADDRESS**

7 Birch Street  
Pennington, NJ 08534

Phone: 615-513-4464 | Email: [clay@freegracemedia.com](mailto:clay@freegracemedia.com)

If you would like to receive this bulletin sent weekly to your email  
then send a note to the email address above.

## **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**10:15 a.m.**      **Bible Study:** Cold Water for the Thirsty (2 Pet 2:17)

**11:00 a.m.**      **Opening Hymns**

**Scripture Reading**

**Service:** Chosen in the Furnace (Is 48:10)

**Closing Hymns**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**—July 19-21--Don Fortner is scheduled to preach for us  
Thur & Fri at 7:30PM, Saturday at 10AM with lunch following.

July 22—One service at 11AM at the firehouse.

August 5—No meal after service.

August 12—One service at 11AM at the Rennels' at 654 Moorwood Rd,  
Telford, PA, 18969 followed by baptism and potluck lunch.

Nothing more hinders a soul from coming to Christ, than a vain love  
of the world; and till a soul is freed from it, it can never have a true  
love for God. John Bunyan

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## **WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO PRAY**

Romans 8:25-27

We have in this passage the comfort of every believer concerning our feeble petitions to God. As believers we know some things concerning prayer. The object of prayer is God, for his glory. We know we come to God through Christ who ever lives to make intercession for us and we know something of who to pray for: ourselves and fellow saints, even our enemies. It is a great privilege to approach his throne of grace. But “we know not what we should pray for as we ought.” The infirmity of our flesh causes us to desire things that, were they granted, would not be for God’s glory or for the good of his saints (Mat 20:20-22; 2 Cor 12:1-10).

## **The Spirit Helpeth Our Infirmities**

To us who have been given some understanding of our own depravity, this is a comforting word. “The Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” (v26) The infirmity of our flesh is so great that we need the grace of the Holy Spirit to even approach Christ’s throne of grace to ask for grace to help in time of need. God the Holy Spirit puts true prayer in the believer’s heart. Our flesh is so taken up with the form of things, so flattered by our own selves, that only the Spirit of God can waken us to our true needs. It is only when the Spirit of God has made us see our sin, that we ask God to forgive us our sin. Only when the Spirit of God makes us behold the cloud of darkness we are under that we beg God for the light of his countenance.

## **Groanings That Cannot Be Uttered**

Sometimes we cannot utter a word. As Hezekiah lay dying he said, “Like a crane or a swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward: O LORD, I am oppressed; undertake for me.” (Is 38:14) The Psalmist said, “Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.” (Ps 77:4) David said, “I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart. Lord, all my desire is before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.” (Ps 38:8-9) Sometimes the depth of what the Spirit is doing is beyond us. Supplications created within us by the Spirit of God which are so heavy that all we can do is groan for they concern details too great for we ourselves to even know. Our appreciation of what Christ has done for us and of what the Spirit does in us is so shallow! But when we are brought to the place where all we can do is groan, “Lord, thou knowest”, that is a good place to be FOR HE DOES KNOW!

## **The Lord Knoweth**

“And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God” (v27) God searches the heart. Christ Jesus our Intercessor knows the hearts of his own. He knows the mind of the

Spirit. God does not rely upon our expressions in words to cause him to hear; he knows the heart. He sees the inward most desire of the soul and is ready to aid and to bless. He knows the mind which the Spirit of God has put in our hearts because the Spirit of God stirs up the child of God to ask according to the will of God. By guiding us into all truth, God the Holy Spirit is glorified! And the prayer put into our hearts by the Holy Spirit is in harmony with the will of God the FATHER and God the SON.

### **The Purpose of Prayer**

The purpose of prayer is not for the believer to turn God to our will, it is God turning his child to God's will. It may be the burden of our own sin, a weak brother in the church, a great trial in our home, even an unbelieving child. All is to bring the believer nearer to Christ our Redeemer, to teach us to submit all to the will of God our Father. At times it seems that God did exactly what we asked him to do. It is not that we turned God to do our will it is that the Spirit of God turned us to ask God for that very thing which God had already purposed to do. (Rom 8:28-34) This is the great consolation and support of believers. We do not know what is best for ourselves but the Holy Spirit brings his saints to submit all into the hand of God and ask for God to do his will to glorify himself and save his elect from our sins. "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." (1 John 5:14-15)

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2 Samuel 7:27: For thou, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, I will build thee an house: therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee.