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# Daily Devotional - Monday, July 19, 2021 - Persevering in Prayer

JULY 19TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

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## Romans 8:26-28

A common hindrance to our prayer life is a lack of perseverance. Many Christians feel that once they've prayed for something, the answer should immediately be forthcoming. But God is not a bellhop, waiting to give us what we want the moment we petition Him. Imagine if the Lord instantly provided whatever we request—we might not develop virtues like patience, trust, and dependence upon Him.

The Lord is faithful to answer our prayers, but not always in the way we expect. Yet even when the answer is no, we can be sure that what He gives is better than what we requested. Consider the apostle Paul—though he repeatedly asked for relief from his “thorn in the flesh,” he was given something more spiritually beneficial. God not only protected Paul from pride but also used the apostle's weakness to display divine power ([2 Corinthians 12:7-10](#)).

Since Paul's prayer wasn't answered the way he'd originally hoped, you might wonder about the requests you bring to the Lord. The truth is, we don't always know how to pray as we should, but thankfully, we have a Helper in the Holy Spirit, who intercedes for us according to God's will. If we don't receive what we hoped, we can be sure that the Spirit knew exactly what to ask on our behalf—and that what we received as a result was best.

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