

**Wheelersburg Baptist Church      10/05/2025**  
**The Spirit's Hopeful Aim in Futility – “We Groan; He Groans”**  
**Romans 8:22-27**  
**Series: “The Secure Struggler – An Exposition of Romans 8”**

**Biblical Idea:** Paul explained to believers how to live with hope in futility.

Outline:

- Paul explained the \_\_\_\_\_ with futility on two levels (8:22–23).
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ groans under the futility.
  - We \_\_\_\_\_ under the futility.
- Paul explained the \_\_\_\_\_ toward hope in salvation (8:24–25).
  - We were saved with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The object of hope is yet \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of this Spirit-indwelling hope is endurance in the context of God-subjected futility.
- Paul explained the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit's help in prayer (8:26–27).
  - The Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ in intercession for us.
  - The Spirit communicates his \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

**Make It Personal:** Endure Futility with Helped-Hope in \_\_\_\_\_.

- Offer \_\_\_\_\_ Prayers.
  - Describe the futility.
  - Describe the weakness.
  - Describe the ignorance.
- Hope \_\_\_\_\_ in Prayer.
  - Identify the future expectation – redemption of the body.
  - Believe in the basis for your expectation – Christ's resurrection.
  - Cultivate an attitude of expectation – wait with eager endurance.

- Approach the \_\_\_\_\_ in Prayer.
  - Bring your descriptive prayers into contact with our future hope.
  - Be honest before the one who searches hearts.
  - Know the revealed will of God.
  - Trust the Spirit to intercede according to his aim.
- \_\_\_\_\_ God.
  - Thank him for the grace of a futility-subjected creation that leads you to him.
  - Thank him for the future hope we have in Christ about the redemption of our bodies.
  - Thank him for providing patient endurance.
  - Thank him for the Helper, the Holy Spirit.
  - Thank him for the Spirit's aim.

**Community Group Discussion Questions:**

1. How is God's wisdom on display in subjecting the creation to futility?
2. What are some personal ways in which you have groaned as a believer or have experienced creation's groan?
3. Romans 8:23 frames our full adoption and redemption of our bodies as a future hope we must wait for. Conversely, Galatians 4:4–6 suggests we are already sons and have already received the Spirit. How does this tension—of being saved now but not yet fully complete—influence how you live and endure suffering today?
4. Hope is a word full of meaning. How does each aspect—attitude, object, basis, and security—build up your endurance?
5. While Douglas Moo cautions against exasperation in the search for God's will because we have the Spirit's help, what are biblically appropriate ways of approaching prayer in futility, weakness, and ignorance that show active trust in the Spirit's help as intercessor?
6. Looking ahead to next week, how would you fill out the Spirit's aim after reading 8:28–30?