

## AN INTRO TO THE SONGS OF THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY

Romans 7:15-8:2; Psalms 34:17-18

### Introduction: The Fall Reminds Us That We're Students Of Jesus

### Your Struggle With Sin Is A Necessary Part Of Your Christian Walk

*The goal of the Apostle Paul's gospel: Transformation, not merely salvation*

*A reading of Romans 7:15-8:2*

### The Sanctification Process And Prayer Go Hand-In-Hand

Psalm 34:17-18 *"The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."*

Psalm 18:6 *"In my distress I called to the LORD; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears."*

### Understanding Prayer As A Tool Made Up Of Words

*"Animals get by without tools, and angels get by without tools, but humans need tools. We live well or badly by means of the tools we have and how well we use them. Prayers are tools, but with this clarification: prayers are not tools for doing or getting, but for being and becoming. At the center of the whole enterprise of being human, prayers are the primary technology. Prayers are tools that God uses to work his will in our bodies and souls. Prayers are tools that we use to collaborate in his work with us."*  
—Eugene Peterson

### What Happens If You're Not Good At Using Prayer As A Tool?

*Athanasius (4<sup>th</sup> century) "Most Scripture speaks to us; the Psalms speak for us."*