This Week's Icebreaker Question:

What's the strangest family tradition in your family?

Series Questions:

1. What has God revealed to you?

2. What are you doing about it?

3. How is it changing your life?

Sermon Specific Questions:

1. Read Romans 8:26. Even as believers we are still living in this tension of already having received the promises of glory and redemption, yet at the same time, there is a component of not yet having received it in its fullness. How might the Spirit go about helping us in our "weakness"? Is Paul here referring to a specific "weakness" or just our fallen human condition in general?

2. Read Romans 8:26-27 and 1 Corinthians 2:11. How does the Spirit help us to pray in accordance with the will of God? How does that encourage you knowing that the Father knows the mind of the Spirit and vice versa? How does that change the way you view the Spirit praying through us on our behalf?

3. In John 15:26, Jesus refers the Holy Spirit as our "helper." In Romans 8:26-27, we find that the Spirit prays for us when we know we need to pray but cannot put it into words. What are some other ways the Spirit helps us? How could knowing about the help that you're receiving from the Spirit change your walk with Christ?

4. If the Spirit prays for our needs according to the will of God, and we actually don't "know what to pray for as we ought," then why is it necessary for us to pray? How could the knowledge that the Spirit prays with us strengthen our prayers?

5. Read Romans 8:26-27 and Exodus 13:17-22. In Exodus, we see God leading His people by a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night, when they did not know which way to go. In Romans 8:26-27, Paul is showing us that we can still take comfort that God's Spirit will infallibly guide us through "wilderness times," like Israel of old, even when we do not know which way to go or how to pray. Have you experienced a time when you have known that God was leading you through a difficult season or event? How did that build your faith as a believer?