

The art teacher had her class out in the open air, sculpting their ideas in clay dug from the nearby stream. She paused as she walked by one student, who had just groaned as he struggled with his work. The student said, "I can't put my thoughts into my art! This is just the best that I can do!" The teacher could sense the child's weakness and lack of confidence.

She took his work and helped him to reshape it and reform it. She shaved off parts that were not appropriate and added where something was needed. In talking to him she searched into the child's mind and could see what he was trying to accomplish, and she helped him express it through the work.

The student looked at the finished product and gave the teacher a huge smile. He could see that it matched his vision of what he had wanted to make.

*In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.*

*Romans 8:26-27*