

Lesson #9 The Spirit of Life

Opening Shot:

As believers in Christ, the Spirit of God lives in us. We are urged to live lives worthy of the calling we've received, but even when we fail to do so, we do not have to run after Jesus eternally, trying somehow to be "good enough." God, in His mercy, punished sin in the person of Jesus on our behalf, and now there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Through Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit of life set us free of the law of sin and death! Now we do not live according to the sinful nature but the Spirit.

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

Ephesians 4:1 ...*I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.*

Romans 8:1-4 *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) I want to do what's right, but sometimes I still do what's wrong. Does that mean I'm not saved?
- 2.) So, if God's Spirit lives in me, how does that help me right now... today?
- 3.) If the Spirit lives in me now, how will that benefit me in the future?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Romans 7:21-25 (The Apostle Paul wrote) *So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

Romans 8:6 ... *the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;*

Romans 8:11 *if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.*

Romans 8:16-17 *The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ...*

Parting Shot:

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus: What a wonderful thing! Yes, our sinful nature still plagues us; often we do things we shouldn't and we regret it. The Apostle Paul (who was definitely a believer in Christ) struggled with his own sinful nature. But he rejoiced that he had been rescued from "this body of death" through Jesus Christ. As believers, we are no longer controlled by the sinful nature, but by the Spirit of Life who lives in us. He testifies with our spirits that we are God's children. And as His children, we are His heirs and co-heirs with Christ. One day our bodies will be raised, just as Christ was raised, and we will live with Jesus forever!

Name: _____ Date: _____

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