HOW AM I ASSURED I'M A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST?



HOW AM I ASSURED I'M A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST? (PART TWO)

II. BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT CONFIRMS IT.

GALATIANS 4:6 (ERV)

Since you are now God's children, he has sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts. The Spirit cries out, "Abba, Father."

EPHESIANS 1:13 (ERV)

It is the same with you. You heard the true message, the Good News about the way God saves you. When you heard that Good News, you believed in Christ. And in Christ, God put his special mark on you by giving you the Holy Spirit that he promised.

ROMANS 8:14-16 (ERV)

14 The true children of God are those who let God's Spirit lead them.

15 The Spirit that we received is not a spirit that makes us slaves again and causes us to fear. The Spirit that we have makes us God's chosen children and with that Spirit we cry out, "Abba, Father."

16 And the SPIRIT himself speaks to our *(human)* spirits and MAKES US SURE that WE are GOD'S CHILDREN.

ROM 8:16 (NIV)

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

"The Spirit of God bears witness to God along with our spirit's witness about our salvation. This is double testimony that we are God's children. The double witness is true, independent of our emotions or subjectivity. The Spirit does not bear witness "to" our spirit but "with" our spirit. The Holy Spirit along with our spirit establishes something as true. A biblical principle is that the presence of two witnesses establishes a fact. (Bible Commentary)

JOHN 14:16 (ESV) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever

He is there to make us sensitive to sin. He is within us to lead us in the right path. He opens the Scriptures to us so we can understand them. He makes His presence known to us in so many ways. (Essentials of New Life by Francis M. Cosgrove, Jr.)

III. BECAUSE CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN OUR LIVES

2 COR 5:17 ESV

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

> IT MEANS: From OLD to NEW From DARKNESS into LIGHT From DEATH into LIFE

It doesn't happen overnight. It is something gradual.

ROM 10:13 ESV

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

PHIL 1:6 ESV

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Read Romans 8:14-17. How has the Holy Spirit been at work in your life recently?
- 2. Read Philippians 1:6 and Romans 8:38-39. How has this assurance affected your thinking and living?