

**The Way**  
Maturity of the Church  
**Lesson 25: God Keeps All His Children Secure, Now and For Eternity**

*\*We are indebted to [Ethnos360](#) for providing the basis of these lessons\**

**Review (Where We've Been)**

***Last week we learned that there are only two ways to live life...***

**Romans 8:5 (NLT)** Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit.

- A mind and actions dominated by the sinful nature connected to Adam (the flesh)
- A mind and actions controlled by the new nature connected to Christ (the Spirit)

**How can we make sure our minds and actions are controlled by the Spirit?**

*By changing the way we think (fill your mind with God's word)*

**Romans 12:2 (NLT)** ...let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

**BIG Idea**

Since Christians live in the Spirit, we are no longer dominated by the flesh and should no longer live in obedience to the flesh.

God and believers each have a role in **sanctification** (the lifelong process of living in and obeying God's ways).

Living in God's ways must be by the Spirit and His power...

...but we must take an active role in battling sinful habits.

Today, we'll be talking about what we've been given because of living life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Information (What You Need to Know)

### ***Movements that have taken place with life in the Spirit...***

- **We move from slaves to sin to children of God**
  - ✓ We are led by the Holy Spirit  
**Romans 8:14 (NLT)** For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.  
Being led by the Spirit doesn't make us sons of God. Becoming a son is **first**, and then the Spirit of God leads us.
  - ✓ We are adopted into God's family  
**Romans 8:15 (NLT)** So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba [*daddy; term of endearment*], Father."  
"Under Roman adoption...the adopted son lost all rights in his old family and gained new rights in his new family. The old life of the adopted son was completely wiped out, with all debts being canceled, with nothing from his past counting against him anymore." – David Guzik
  - ✓ We have affirmation that we are His children  
**Romans 8:16 (NLT)** For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.
  - ✓ We inherit God's blessings, and even His sufferings (on earth)  
**Romans 8:17 (NLT)** And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.
  
- **We move from suffering to glory** (a full and future manifestation of God's character, actions, and eternal plan for salvation)  
**Romans 8:18 (NLT)** Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. **19** For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. **20** Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, **21** the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay.
  - ✓ We accept hardships because we will soon be home in Heaven with Jesus
  - ✓ All creation will be delivered from the effects of sin
  - ✓ We look forward with certainty that God will do all He has promised

- **We move from *weakness to confidence in the Spirit's intercession***

**Romans 8:26 (NLT)** And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. **27** And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

*The Spirit, knowing God's will, prays for us even when we don't know what we should pray for.*

- **We move from *discouragement to trust in God's sovereign control***

**Romans 8:28 (NLT)** And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

*"In his providence, God orchestrates every event in life—even suffering, temptation, and sin—to accomplish both our temporal and eternal benefit." – John MacArthur*

### **Application (What You Need To Do):**

#### ***Life in the Spirit brings security in Christ for now and eternity...***

- **Nothing can overcome or destroy us**

**Romans 8:31 (NLT)** What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

- **God will provide all that we need**

**Romans 8:32 (NLT)** Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?

- **No one can condemn or accuse us for our sins before God**

**Romans 8:34 (NLT)** Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

- **Nothing can separate us from God's love**

**Romans 8:38 (NLT)** And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. **39** No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.