



## **Discussion Guide**

**July 27, 2025**

### **Romans 8:1–17**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

<sup>5</sup> Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

<sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And 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 because of his Spirit who lives in you.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. <sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. <sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. <sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

**Read verses 1–4**

1. What does it mean to have 'no condemnation' in Christ Jesus? How does this truth affect how we view ourselves and our past?
2. How does Paul contrast the law of the Spirit with the law of sin and death?
3. What did God accomplish through sending His Son, according to verses 3–4?

**Read verses 5–8**

4. What are the differences between a life governed by the flesh and one governed by the Spirit?
5. How can we tell which mindset is governing us—flesh or Spirit?
6. What does it mean that those in the realm of the flesh cannot please God?

**Read verses 9–11**

7. What encouragement do you find in verses 9–11 about the Spirit living in you?
8. How does this passage shape your understanding of life in the Spirit versus life in the flesh?
9. What hope does Paul give about the future of our physical bodies?

**Read verses 12–17**

10. What does Paul mean by saying we have an obligation not to the flesh but to the Spirit?
11. How does the Spirit's role in our adoption help us relate to God as 'Abba, Father'?
12. What does it mean to be a co-heir with Christ, and how does that shape our identity?