Encounter Church

Sermon Notes

October 18, 2026 — Pastor John Vernon

ENCOUNTER CHURCH

Under No Obligation

Romans 8:12–17a

Slide 1 — Romans 8:12–17a

12 Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. 13 For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 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, Father.” 16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children. 17 And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God’s glory.

Slide 2 — Romans 8:12

12 Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do.

Slide 3 — Romans 8:13

13 For if you live by its dictates, you will die.

Slide 4 — Romans 8:1–2

1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. 2 And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.

Slide 5 — Romans 8:13

13 ...But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live.

Slide 6 — Philippians 3:12–14

12 I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. 13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Slide 7 — Romans 8:13

13 ...you will live.

Slide 8 — Colossians 3:1–3

1 Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. 2 Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. 3 For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.

Slide 9 — Galatians 5:24–25

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. 25 Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.

Slide 10 — Romans 8:14–15

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 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…

Slide 11 — Psalm 143:10

10 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. May your gracious Spirit lead me forward on a firm footing.

Slide 12 — Hebrews 2:14–15

14 Because God’s children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. 15 Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.

Slide 13 — 2 Corinthians 6:17–18

17 “…I will welcome you. 18 And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

Slide 14 — Ephesians 1:5

5 God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

Slide 15 — Romans 8:15

15 …Now we call him, “Abba, Father.”

Slide 16 — Mark 14:36

36 “Abba, Father,” he cried out, “everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”

Slide 17 — Romans 8:16–17

16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children. 17 And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God’s glory.

Slide 18 — Romans 8:17

17 And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God’s glory.

Slide 19 — Hebrews 9:15

15 …he is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant.

Slide 20 — 1 Peter 1:4

4 and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.

Slide 21

This is God’s gift to you that assures you of salvation, your place as His child, and the eventual recipient of His undefiled inheritance and glory.