

The Book of Romans 8:1-17 – Sermon Notes

Romans 8:1–4 “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

Our place in God’s family begins with **what God did**, not what we did. Christ dealt with our sin and brought us into a new standing before God. The Holy Spirit is the mark that we belong to Him.

Ephesians 1:13 “When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit is not something Christians earn later or receive after reaching a higher level of faith. **When we believe, God gives us His Spirit.**

1. In the Holy Spirit, We Live as Children of God

Romans 8:14–16 “The Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship... The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”

Because of Christ, believers have been adopted into God’s family. Our security is not based on our performance, but on **Christ’s work on our behalf**. We do not live as slaves afraid of God. We live as sons and daughters who can cry, **“Abba, Father.”**

Adopted. Chosen. Known. Secure.

2. In the Holy Spirit, We Grow New Desires

Romans 8:5 “Those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.”

As the Spirit works within us, our desires begin to change. We increasingly desire the things our Father desires.

This can include:

- A growing desire for prayer and worship
- Greater generosity
- A hunger for holiness
- A desire to leave destructive habits behind
- New priorities, relationships, and patterns of life

We do not change these things **to become part of God’s family**. They begin changing **because we already belong to His family**.

3. By the Spirit, We Put Sin to Death

Romans 8:12–13 “If by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.”

The Christian life is not passive. The Holy Spirit gives us both **new desires and power to act on them**. The flesh still fights back. **As much as we try to kill sin, sin is trying to kill us**. Struggling with the flesh is part of the Christian life. **Making peace with the flesh is not**. Never grow comfortable with the very sin that is trying to destroy you.

4. In the Holy Spirit, We Have Life and Peace

Romans 8:6 “The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.”

Life and peace do not mean an easy life. Romans 8 itself reminds us that God’s children will experience suffering. The Spirit gives us a life and peace that can **transcend our circumstances** because we know:

- We belong to God.
- Our sins have been redeemed.
- The Spirit is at work within us.
- We are being led away from death and toward holiness.
- Our future with Christ is secure.