



Romans

2-Feb: Life through the Spirit

Series Summary: This series is a five-week journey through the book of Romans. In Romans, the Apostle Paul lays out for us the Gospel in vivid detail! Through this series, students can clearly see the consequences of sin, God's merciful response, our new Life in Christ, and what a God-honoring response to the Gospel is.

Big Idea/Question: What role does the Holy Spirit play in my life?

GET THEM TALKING

On a scale of 1-10, how confident would you be in explaining or describing _____?

- God
- Jesus
- The Gospel
- The Holy Spirit

Was the Holy Spirit the one you felt the least confident about? Why is that?

What do you know about the Holy Spirit?

VIDEO TEACHING

My prayer is that after these few weeks in Romans you have so much more confidence about who Jesus is and what the Gospel truly is.

But what about if someone walked up to you and asked who or what is the Holy Spirit? Far more often there is silence when the Holy Spirit is brought up. But it doesn't have to be this way. Paul in Rom 8 tells us how, when and why we receive the Holy Spirit.

How - Rom 8:1-4

We can receive, or rather be indwelled, with the Holy Spirit because Christ has redeemed us.

When - The moment we believe in Jesus

Why - Rom 8:5-9

Theology: To use some more theological words, we received the Holy Spirit the moment we were justified so that we could be sanctified. In more straightforward terms- the moment we were forgiven and received God's grace, (when we believed), we were also indwelled with the Holy Spirit, so that we could be empowered to live and act like Jesus.

Transition - The big question is "so what?" How does the fact that I am indwelled with the Holy Spirit change my day-to-day life?

GROUP DISCUSSION

(Lead by the Spirit)

In the rest of chapter 8, Paul described what it looks like to be "led by the Spirit". What do you think it means to be led by the Spirit?

What do you think it means to be led by The Holy Spirit?

Romans 8:14-17 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. **15** 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." **16** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17** 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.

How should the fact that we are children of God affect the way we live our lives?

Vs 17- What do you think Paul meant when he said we are co-heirs with Christ?

Answer/Leader Note: Simply put this means that all Christ has shared with us all that is his. He did not hold back in his blessing. He gave us eternal life. His sacrifice allowed us to be brought into the family of God.

Vs 17- How should the fact that we are “co-heirs with Christ” affect how we view suffering or difficulties in our lives?

Answer/Optional Further Study: Paul answers this question further in 2 Corinthians 1:3-7.

Romans 8:26-27 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. **27** And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

Based on what we just read, how does the Holy Spirit help us when we pray?

Leader Note/Answer: At times, our weakness is so intense that we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how we should pray. At those times, the Spirit voices our requests for us. He intercedes by appealing to the only one who can help us, God himself. We may not know the right words to say, but the Holy Spirit does.¹

How should what we just read affect how we pray?

¹ Barton, B., Comfort, P., Osborne, G., Taylor, L. K., & Veerman, D. (2001). Life Application New Testament Commentary (p. 609). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale.