



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: Adopted into God's Family

Pastor Sarah Burttt

April 2, 2023

### Life Group Discussion

#### Encouragement:

- What has changed about your perspective on the Holy Spirit as we've gone through this sermon series?
- What is something you're looking forward to about Holy Week leading up to Good Friday and Easter Sunday?

#### Scripture:

READ [Romans 8:14-21](#)

- What does this passage tell us about our identity?
- How is Paul describing our adoption in this portion of the letter to the Romans church?
- What do you believe is the most profound part of this passage?

READ [Romans 8:16-21](#)

Pastor Sarah taught that there are some implications to our adoption as sons and daughters of God.

1. We share in His inheritance. (16-17)
  2. We share in His suffering. (17-18)
  3. We share in His glory. (18-21)
- What stands out to you about what is gained through our adoption?
  - How do the implications of your adoption change you daily life?

**Prayer:** READ [Galatians 4:7](#)

After hearing this passage read out loud, turn it into first person, and speak it out loud together as a group, and then have someone close in prayer.

*"So **I am** no longer a slave, but God's child; and since **I am** his child, God has made **me** also an heir."*

#### Next Steps:

- Attend Grace's Holy Week services. Check out [whoisgrace.com](http://whoisgrace.com) for a schedule.
- To get the most out of this series, set Grace as "My Church" in YouVersion and follow the Featured reading plan every week.
- Keep working to memorize Romans 8:18-39!



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: Groaning and Hoping

Pastor Derek

April 9, 2023

### Life Group Discussion

**Encouragement:** -Share a Holy Week experience or learning with the group.

- Share something that the YouVersion reading plan taught you this week about living in the Spirit.
- Share something you are looking forward to. What makes the waiting hard? What makes it exciting?

### Scripture:

Read [Romans 8:22-25](#)

- How do you respond to constant news of suffering in the world?
- How do you reconcile the presence of difficulties in your life, and in the lives of other believers, with your understanding of who God is and what He has promised us?

Read [John 16:20-22](#).

- How can the illustration of childbirth change our perspective in the midst of our own struggles?

Read [Romans 8:23](#), [Romans 5:1-5](#), [Romans 12:12\(CEV\)](#).

- How do you define hope? In the Bible, hope is an indication of certainty, a strong and confident expectation. How does that differ from the common expressions of hope in our current society?
- As a Christian, what does it look like to live hopeful? The center of our hope is the anticipation of our adoption and redemption of bodies.
- How can the hope of the Holy Spirit help us wait **eagerly** and **patiently** for the good promises of God?
- Where, or to whom, are we tempted to turn for assurance/comfort when life gets hard? Where does true hope come from? When we feel confused or discouraged, how can we find hope? Read [John 7:37-39](#); [Luke 11:9-13](#). Where does Jesus tell us to seek hope?

**Prayer:** Ask 3 volunteers to be ready to read [Psalm 62:5-8](#) aloud. Open the prayer time, inviting the Holy Spirit to come. Have each volunteer read and then pause in silence for a full minute, giving space for the Holy Spirit to speak. Conclude the time by giving each an opportunity to respond to anything the Holy Spirit may be saying.

### Next Steps:

- Make plans to connect with another believer this week. Share an area that you need more hope and take time to pray for one another.
- Continue working together to memorize Romans 8:18-39!



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: Your Weakness is Your Strength

Pastor Scott Michel

April 16, 2023

### Life Group Discussion

#### Encouragement:

- Share something that the YouVersion reading plan (We are more than safe in God's hands- Jeff Wells) taught you this week about living in the Spirit.
- In what ways do you think your weakness helps you as you follow Jesus?
- Are there times when you start to pray, but you just don't know what to say? Share a time this happened to you and what you did.

#### Scripture:

READ Paul's words in [Romans 8:26](#) and Jesus' words In [John 15:5](#).

- How do these verses describe our natural state?
- How does knowing that the Spirit intercedes for you bring you comfort and hope?
- What are some ways you can remain in Jesus?

READ [Romans 8:27](#)

- Pastor Scott said that since the Holy Spirit and the Father are one, the Spirit doesn't need to ask the Father what His will is. How does knowing this change your view of the Holy Spirit?
- In what ways do you think the Holy Spirit's intercession helps you? (Gain wisdom, mercy, God's perfect will for you, discernment, a divine connection, peace)

**Prayer:** Get in a circle while sitting, standing, or kneeling. Open your hands, palms up, on your lap. Choose a worship song about the Holy Spirit to play while you sing and/or pray along with it, aloud or silently. (Suggested song: [Holy Spirit](#), the Worship Initiative). When the song ends, continue in prayer, praising and thanking God for this truth that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us.

#### Next Steps:

- Every time you pray this week, remember that the Holy Spirit is interceding for you! Thank Him!
- Continue working together to memorize Romans 8:18-39! Invite someone in the group to share what they have learned!



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: God is For Us

Pastor Derek

April 23, 2023

### Encouragement:

-Share something that the sermons or YouVersion reading plan taught you this week about living in the Spirit.

### Scripture:

READ [Roman 8:28-34](#)

-Romans 8:28 - What are some possible misunderstandings (or misuses) of this verse? What could be the consequences of these misunderstandings?

-Romans 8:29 - Pastor Derek explained that the ultimate good in us that God is working for is a better life and that life is to be like Jesus. In your list of good things that you long for, where would being like Jesus fall?

-How would being more like Jesus result in a better life?

-If being more like Jesus was at the top of your list of good things you longed for, how would that affect how you view your circumstances?

-Romans 8:30 - Paul used the word predestined as well as the other words of this passage to be a comfort to us. How do these words bring comfort to you?

-Romans 8:31-34 - How can the truth that God gave His Son for you help you when it doesn't feel like God is doing good for you?

-Finish this sentence, "We know God is for us because..."

-[Romans 8:18](#) - The 4th point of this week's sermon was, "Realign your perspective and take a long view." What does it mean to "take a long view"? How will a "long view" affect your view of your current circumstances? How will it help you in your current circumstances?

**Prayer:** Think of people (including yourself) who have become (or are in danger of becoming) bitter, angry, disillusioned with God, disbelieving, or depressed because the circumstances they are facing are not good. Make a list (unspoken names are okay too). Take time to pray for these people and yourselves.

### Next Steps:

-So what? What needs to change? In what way is God telling you that your perspective needs to change?

-Get the most out of this series by setting Grace as "My Church" in the YouVersion app and following the Featured reading plan each week.

-Continue working together to memorize Romans 8:18-39! Invite someone in the group to share their progress.



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: Nothing Can Separate Us

Pastor Derek

April 30, 2023

### Life Group Discussion

#### Encouragement:

- Read [Romans 8:1-34](#) as a review and ask everyone to share something that has impacted your faith through this series.
- If a few members in the group have been working on memorization, ask them to share! Celebrate any and all effort and progress!

#### Scripture:

Read [Romans 8:31-35](#)

- In response to everything Paul has written in Romans 1-8, look at each question Paul asks here in these verses. What do you imagine his tone is? What is Paul trying to convey to his readers?

Read [Romans 8:35-39](#)

- Though the Holy Spirit is not mentioned at the end of the chapter, the entire chapters has been about life in the Spirit. What is implied in this final section?
- Look back over the whole of chapter 8 and reflect on what the love of God has done for us, through the work of the Spirit in us. Now, if *all* of this is true, then *who shall separate us from the love of Christ?*

READ all or a handful of these Scriptures: [Job 1:21](#); [Psalm 34:10](#); [Psalm 138:3, 7-8](#); [Psalm 139:7-10](#); [Jeremiah 31:3](#); [Luke 15](#); [John 3:16-18](#); [John 13:1](#); [2 Corinthians 12:8-10](#); [Ephesians 1](#); [1 John 4:7-21](#)

- How is the certainty and security of God's love in this passage reflected in what we have learned in Romans 8?
- What does this passage teach us about the ways of God's love and the strength of God's love?
- What does this passage teach us to do with the love of God?

**Prayer:** Pray [Ephesians 3:14-21](#) over your group (perhaps read it multiple times in different translations). Ask each member to share a way in which they want to experience more fully Life in the Spirit. Consider having each person pray for someone sitting next to them.

**Next Steps:** Romans 8 starts with "*no condemnation*" and ends with "*nothing can separate us*". How will life look different from this point forward? What steps will you take to intentionally live the abundant life in the Spirit? (be as practical as possible!)