



## “Spirit”

(Romans 8:12-17)

Reading and Study Guide for the week  
of April 21-27, 2024

**Memory verse:** “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9)

**This week, read and study Romans 8:12-17. Some questions to answer and think about this week with your family or Community Group:**

1. What impact can a good father or a bad father have on a person’s life?
2. What kind of obligation do Christians have? (8:12–14)
3. What happens to the person who lives according to the sinful nature? (8:13)
4. By what means can a person find life? (8:13)
5. What is true of people who are led by God’s Spirit? (8:14)
6. What kind of spirit do God’s children have? (8:15)
7. What are the benefits of being a child of God? (8:15–17)
8. How does seeing and experiencing God as a loving Father change your understanding of what it means to live as a Christian?
9. What benefits does God give to His children?
10. What does unchecked sin and selfishness produce in a person’s life?
11. What changes have you been resisting in your life that you are now willing to allow your loving heavenly Father to complete?<sup>1</sup>

### Life Application Bible Notes

**8:13** When we turn away from sin’s appeal in the Holy Spirit’s power, regarding sin as dead, we can ignore temptation when it comes (see 6:11; Galatians 5:24).

**8:14–17** Paul uses adoption to illustrate the believer’s new relationship with God. In Roman culture, the adopted person lost all rights in his old family and gained all the rights of a legitimate child in his new family. He became a full heir to his new father’s estate. Likewise, when a person becomes a Christian, he or she gains all the privileges and responsibilities of a child in God’s family. One of these outstanding privileges is being led by the Spirit (see Galatians 4:5, 6). We may not always feel as though we belong to God, but the Holy Spirit is our witness. His inward presence reminds us of who we are and encourages us with God’s love (5:5).

---

<sup>1</sup> WORDsearch, [Adult Questions for LESSONmaker](#) (WORDsearch, n.d.).

**8:14–17** We are no longer like “fearful slaves”; instead, we are the Master’s children. What a privilege! Because we are God’s children, we share in great treasures as co-heirs. God has already given us his best gifts: his Son, his Holy Spirit, forgiveness, and eternal life; and he encourages us to ask him for whatever we need.

**8:17** There is a price for being identified with Jesus. Along with being “heirs of God’s glory,” Paul also mentions the suffering that Christians must face. What kinds of suffering are we to endure? For first-century believers, there was economic and social persecution, and some even faced death. We, too, must pay a price for following Jesus. In many parts of today’s world, Christians face pressures just as severe as those faced by Christ’s first followers. Even in countries where Christianity is tolerated or encouraged, Christians must not become complacent. To live as Jesus did—serving others, giving up one’s rights, resisting pressures to conform to the world—always exacts a price. Nothing we suffer, however, can compare to the great price that Jesus paid to save us.<sup>2</sup>



Romans Study Guide questions and notes are from

---

<sup>2</sup> [Life Application Bible Notes](#) (Tyndale, 2007), 1908.