

## a new Identity - Outline

April 15, 2018

### Review

*So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1, NLT)*

*The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. (Romans 8:3a, NIV)*

*He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. (Romans 8:3b, NLT)*

*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. (Romans 8:2, NLT)*

### So what does this “new you” mean?

#### 1. A New Motivation

We are no longer motivated by a fear of condemnation, but we are motivated by a love for God and others.

- under construction
- not rejected
- not under wrath
- our friend, Jesus

#### 2. A New Focus

Our focus is no longer on temporary things but on eternal things.

*The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. (Romans 8:11a, NLT)*

Jesus: “The Father in Me”

*Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but **my Father who lives in me does his work through me.** (John 14:10, NLT)*

Jesus: “My Spirit in You”

*(And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.) (Romans 8:9b, NLT)*

*For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 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.” For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. (Romans 8:14–16, NLT)*

## How does this help me? How does this actually work in my life?

- Jesus spent time with the Father.
- Jesus sought the Father's direction.
- Jesus listened to only one voice.

*And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. (Romans 8:17a, NLT)*

### ***Three Contrasts between Flesh and Spirit.***

- a. the Flesh urges you to satisfy your appetite and the Spirit urges you to have an eternal perspective.

*Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. (Romans 8:5, NLT)*

- b. the Flesh is fueled by fear of what "might happen" and the Spirit is fueled by confidence in what is.

*So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. (Romans 8:6, NLT)*

- c. the Flesh encourages me to establish my identity and the Spirit encourages me to rest in my identity.

*For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. (Romans 8:7-8, NLT)*

### 3. A New Partner

I can live in total dependence on Jesus Christ rather than depending on my ability.

*But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (Romans 8:9a, NLT)*

## **a new Identity – Study Guide**

*April 15, 2018*

### **Introduction**

What does the message of “no condemnation” mean to you?

### **Read Romans 8:1-4**

Is there a specific time in your life when your new identity in Jesus really “became real” for you? Explain.

### **Read Romans 8:5-8**

What does it mean to set your mind on the things of the flesh? Give some examples.

What does it mean to set your mind on the things of the Spirit? Give some examples.

Will the inner thoughts and meditations of a person’s heart always come out in their actions? Why or why not?

What are the consequences of the two different mindsets?

In other words, where does each mindset lead?

### **Read Romans 8:9-13**

Why is it important that the Holy Spirit indwells believers?

What will the Holy Spirit do for believers? (Share some other verses that talk about this.)

What does it mean that the Spirit will give life to our mortal bodies?

### **Closing Discussion**

How does the Spirit lead you? Share a specific example with the group of how you were led by the Spirit.