

Romans Chapter 8  
Week 9, v.14-15

Rom 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

To be led <ago> to lead, to bring, drive

What do you think of when you hear the expression 'someone is driven by something'?

**Definition** of **DRIVEN**. 1: having a compulsive or urgent quality <a **driven** sense of obligation> 2: propelled or motivated by something

To be led by the Spirit of God means we are driven by the Spirit, we are motivated to follow the Spirit. We have a reason to follow the spirit.

To be a child of God means we have the Spirit to guide and lead us; we no longer live for ourselves but for Him who saved us.

Ps 143:10 Teach me to do Thy will, For Thou art my God; Let Thy good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Pr 8:20 "I walk [lead] in the way of righteousness, In the midst of the paths of justice,

Is 48:16-17 "Come near to Me, listen to this: From the first I have not spoken in secret, From the time it took place, I was there. And now the Lord GOD has sent Me, and His Spirit." Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.

Gal 5:24-25 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

No man who has not Divine assistance can either find the way to heaven, or walk in it when found. As Christ, by his sacrificial offering, has opened the kingdom of God to all believers; and, as a mediator, transacts the concerns of their kingdom before the throne; so the Spirit of God is the great agent here below, to enlighten, quicken, strengthen, and guide the true disciples of Christ; and all that are born of this Spirit are led and guided by it; and none can pretend to be the children of God who are not thus guided. Adam Clarke's Commentary

Are you being driven or motivated by the Spirit? Do you give up your own will to do God's will? Do you seek to obey Him in all things or just the things that don't 'conflict' with your plans?

It is possible to please God through the Spirit's work in our lives – we are weak but can overcome the temptation of living for the flesh with the Spirit's help.

Romans 8:26 And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for [us] with groanings too deep for words;

It stands to reason – if you are God's child, then you will be driven to please Him. Look at the questions below from the Barnes Commentary.

1. Are we conscious that an influence from above has been drawing us away from the corrupting passions and vanities of this world? This is the work of the Spirit.
2. Are we conscious of a desire to yield to that influence, and to be conducted in the path of purity and life? This is an evidence that we are the sons of God.
3. Do we offer no resistance; do we follow cheerfully, and obey this pure influence, leading us to mortify pride, subdue passion, destroy lust, humble ambition, and annihilate the love of wealth and of the world? If so, we are his children. God will not lead us astray; and our peace and happiness consist only in yielding ourselves to this influence entirely, and in being willing to be conducted by this unseen hand "beside the still waters of salvation."

One of the great benefits of the gospel is that as God's children, we have a guide. One who absolutely knows the way. One who will not lead us onto a path that will cause us to stumble or get lost. One who will guide us even through the roughest terrain with a strong hand to hold, seeing us through to the end.

Romans 8:14 says those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

### What does it mean to be a son of God?

*Are the sons of God.* Are adopted into his family, and are his children. This is a name of endearment, meaning that they sustain to him this relation; that they are his friends, disciples, and imitators; that they are parts of the great family of the redeemed, of whom he is the Father and Protector. Albert Barnes' NT Commentary

2 Cor 6:17-18 "Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.

A son of God is separate (set apart). A son of God is welcomed (received, taken into favor) by Him. A son of God can call Him Father (a parent).

Eph 1:5-6 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

A son of God is adopted through Jesus. This adoption has been determined before we even existed in person. A son of God is adopted for God's pleasure, for His praise and for His glory. A son of God has a heart that is divinely influenced with His favor.

Gal 4:4-5 But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

A son of God is redeemed (rescued) from the law which cannot save. A son of God receives *in full* the benefits of adoption.

1 John 3:1-2 See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and [such] we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.

A son of God has the Father's great love given to him. A son of God is called His child. A son of God is not understood by the world. A son of God cannot fully appreciate the complete blessing of who we are in Him. A son of God will someday have eyes opened wide to the fullness of God's glory!

Ezekiel 36:26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

A son of God has a new (or fresh) heart. A son of God has a new spirit – this is a change from within. A son of God is the recipient of a heart transplant using technology that only God understands and is able to perform!

Acts 17:28a for in Him we live and move and exist,

A son of God is fully dependent on God for life and for purpose. Without Him we can do nothing and are nothing. We continue to be because of Him. He sustains us. He sustains the world and everything and everyone in it.

Do we live according to the glorious knowledge and privilege we have as God's children?

Rom 8:15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

1 Cor 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God,

2 Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.

Real Christians are enabled by God's grace to call Him Father with confidence and affection. What glorious peace and rest we have! We are not governed by fear, we are governed by freedom.

Ps 4:8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep, For Thou alone, O LORD, dost make me to dwell in safety.

Ps 29:11 The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace.

Ps 55:18 He will redeem my soul in peace from the battle [which is] against me, for they are many [who strive] with me.

Ps 119:165 Those who love Thy law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.

"The slave is under constant fear and alarm. But the spirit of religion is that of freedom and of confidence; the spirit of children, and not of slaves." Barnes NT Commentary

We cry, Abba, Father; Abba is the Chaldee word for father. The union of the two words gives emphasis to the endeared relation. Family Bible Notes

Eph 1:11-14 [In Him] also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation--having

also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of [God's own] possession, to the praise of His glory.

### Application Questions

According to Romans 8:14, what is a result of being God's child?

Who is leading your life? Read Ps 143:10; Pr 8:20 and Is 48:16-17.

What does it mean to you to have a Guide who knows the way? Perhaps it would help to look up the word 'guide' in the dictionary

When a child is adopted, they are specifically chosen. The bible says we are adopted sons and daughters of God, specifically chosen. Look up Eph 1:5-6. What is your response to being given the privilege of being God's child?

Read Romans 8:15. Can you call upon God as your 'Abba' Father with confidence?

What questions is God putting on your heart as you read through His word? Jot down the thoughts He is giving you to apply to your life. Consider sharing your own application next week at our study to encourage others.