

Romans Chapter 8 Week 5, v. 5-6

Go through Romans 8 and mark the word spirit wherever it occurs.

The emphasis in this chapter is on the Spirit. The word spirit occurs 19 times in the NAS translation. We're going to take a slight detour and look at what it means to have the Spirit working in our lives.

In verses 1-5, we saw that in the Spirit we have freedom from the condemnation of sin.

2 Cor 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, [there] is liberty.

Liberty – the freedom to think or act without being constrained... freedom from captivity or slavery

What were we enslaved to before receiving the Holy Spirit?

To have freedom in the Spirit means we are set free from sin's captivity. In the Holy Spirit, we have the ability to make choices. The dominance of sin is no longer something we are subject to.

The Holy Spirit is given to every believer and is always available. God doesn't look away or get preoccupied with something else and forget us momentarily. When we are yielded to Him, His blessings through His Spirit are constant.

John 14:16-17 "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; [that is] the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, [but] you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you.

Below are scriptures that give us more information about the Holy Spirit.

John 14:26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

Rom 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Rom 5:5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Rom 15:13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is God and therefore has the same character as God.

The Holy Spirit is omnipresent: Ps 139:7-13

The Holy Spirit is omniscient: 1 Cor 2:10

The Holy Spirit is omnipotent: Luke 1:35; Rom 15:19

The Spirit is the source of truth, knowledge and wisdom.

John 16:13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

Rom 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

Have you heard someone say their mind is set? What do they mean? They have made a decision and are moving towards a certain direction. What happens when we choose one direction and someone tries to thwart our movement? Think of a toddler who is focused on something across the room – how fervently do they move towards it? What happens when someone tries to change their direction?

Keep this in mind as we continue our study.

The KJV of Romans 8:6 says this: **For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

The word 'mind' comes from <phronema> which means inclination or purpose. So there is a contrast between those who are inclined or motivated by human nature (the flesh) and those who are motivated by the Holy Spirit.

A mind set on the flesh is inclined to act in accordance to human nature with its frailties and in its passions – physically and morally.

What does it look like to be carnally minded? What happens to you when you 'think' or act out of your flesh instead of the Spirit?

We've all heard of a temper tantrum. **How would you describe one?** The dictionary gives this definition: an outburst of anger, especially a childish display of rage or bad temper. To have a temper means to have a tendency to get angry easily and suddenly; to be in a state of anger or annoyance.

A temper in general, describes your emotional condition or predisposition. You can have an easy-going temper, a state of calm and balance. You can lose your temper.

What is *your* temperament? How have you seen the Holy Spirit guide your temper into something that is pleasing to God?

Application Questions
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Read through the chapter. Review the verses listed on the bottom of last weeks application hand-out. What is available to you through the Holy Spirit? How have you seen the Spirit work in your life specifically?

What does it mean to 'act in the flesh' verses 'act in the spirit'? think of a specific situation in your life – what would the contrast be between these two actions?

Romans 8:6 says the mind set on the spirit is life and peace. Rom 5:1, Gal 5:22. What does it mean to have 'life' in the Spirit?

What does it mean to have 'peace' in the Spirit?

Romans 8:5-6 talks about a mind-set. Is your mind set on the flesh or on the Spirit? How do you know?

Think about your conversation. Is it worldly or spiritual?

Is the Bible something you treasure and are excited about or is it something that bores you and you take it out because it's expected?