



Romans 8:1-17

Liberated Life in the Spirit | May 4th - 10th, 2014

Warm-up: The Holy Spirit brings conviction but never condemnation. What is the difference?

- Read **Romans 8:1-4** silently on your own then together as a group. Since our condemnation and guilty verdict have been removed through Jesus Christ, objectively, we must not accept condemnation *subjectively*.
 - In what ways have you found victory in battling feelings of condemnation in your own life? (See also **1 John 3:20**)
- Read **Romans 8:5-11** silently on your own then together as a group. Notice what life in the Spirit looks like. It *thinks about God's will, experiences life and peace, looks forward and is hopeful about life with God. It's a God-connected, Christ-filled, dependent life*.
 - In **v.5-8**, Paul speaks of the radical differences between those dominated by the flesh and those controlled by the Holy Spirit. Identify and discuss these differences. What strikes you?
- George shared that life in the Spirit is more like a Tram than a Truck. A truck can run out of gas, but a tram is continually connected to its power source.
 - What is the difficulty or danger of simply “filling up” and then running until your tank gets low again (like a Truck)?
 - What activities or rhythms have helped you stay connected to God's Spirit in a more consistent and dependent way (like a Tram)?
- Read **Romans 8:12-17** silently on your own then together as a group. Roman adoption included the transfer of fatherhood, cancellation of all debts and obligations, and full rights in the new family including a secured inheritance!
 - How does the truth that God adopted you impact you personally?
 - How *should* this impact the things you tend to fear most? (**v.15-16**)

Wrap-up: By God's Spirit in us we are now in God's family with God as our Father, no condemnation for sin, full inheritance with Christ, and the Spirit as our witness. Celebrate these things in prayer as you close!