



## #2 It's Just Different Now

*Romans 8:12-18 (ESV)*

LED BY THE SPIRIT

**Romans 8:12** Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature (flesh), to live according to it. <sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the sinful nature (flesh), you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, <sup>14</sup> because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. <sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. <sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

God’s children are being led by God’s Spirit — Romans 8:14

Life dominated by The Flesh	Life dominated by The Spirit
Minds set on fleshly things	Minds set on spiritual things
Leads to death	Leads to life and peace
Mind is hostile towards God	Mind is not hostile towards God
Mind doesn’t submit to God’s law	Mind submits to God’s law
Cannot please God	Pleasing to God
Not indwelt by the Spirit	Indwelt by the Spirit
Not led by the Spirit	Led by the Spirit

- 1) All of God’s true children have been given a resident **EMPOWERING GUIDE** to live within them and lead their lives: the Holy Spirit.
- 2) The Indwelling Spirit aims to lead God’s people into a different kind of living than the old flesh life—a life of **PLEASING GOD!**
- 3) We can each choose to **YIELD** to the Spirit’s leading, or **RESIST** it.

## WHERE WILL HE LEAD US?

### 1. **DEEPER HOLINESS:** From tolerating sin to aggressively fighting to kill it

**Romans 8:12** So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

### 2. **GREATER ASSURANCE:** from fearful doubting to confidence of having membership in God’s Family

**Romans 8:14** ...because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.

### 3. **LONGER PERSPECTIVE:** From focusing on struggles in this life to eagerly anticipating the glory of the next

**Romans 8:17** Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. <sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

The Spirit IS Leading. **Are YOU following?**

- “I thank God that I really do have a strong desire to be led by the Spirit in my life, and to follow His leading.”
- “I struggle with doubting my salvation. I sometimes wonder if I’m really a Christian. I need to know the source of these doubts.”
- “I have struggles with seeing and relating to God as my Father. That’s not a comforting image to me, because of my own experience. But something in me wants to see God that way.”
- “On my own I’ve been failing to beat my sin. I know I need the Spirit’s help and strength to fight and kill it.”
- “I need the Spirit of God to open my eyes to the Longer View of Things, because I’m getting weighed down with the cares of this life and it’s stealing my joy away.”