



Life Group Study Guide: Romans 8:12-17

Theme: *Alive in the Spirit*

Warm-Up Question

What is something that you have inherited from your family? This could be something like a physical appearance, a personality trait (like the way you talk or respond emotionally), an item or object that has been handed down from family to family, or an actual inheritance.

Look at the Book

Read Romans 8:12-17 at least once.

Key Questions:

- What stands out to you, or what do you notice?
 - What questions are raised for you?
 - What challenges you?
-

Questions

- In Romans 8:12 Paul says: “Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it.”
 - What does it look like to live “not according to the flesh” and what is the result of when we do?
 - What is the difference between “living for the flesh” and “living life by the Spirit”?
 - What characteristics or fruits are produced by each way of living?
 - In Romans 8:15-16, Paul contrasts fear and slavery with adoption and sonship.
 - What difference does it make to see yourself as a son or daughter of God rather than a slave?
 - Paul reminds that because of the work of Jesus on the cross and the Holy Spirit in our lives we can cry out “Abba, Father”.
 - What does this say about our relationship with God?
 - Why might it be hard for some people to relate to God in this way?
 - In Romans 8:17 Paul talks about us being “heirs” and “co-heirs” with Jesus if we share in his (Jesus’) suffering.
 - What does being an heir tell us about our relationship and status as a daughter or son of God?
 - What does it mean to share in Christ’s suffering?
-

Living It Out

- What truth from the passage resonates with you or encourages you the most?
 - That you are no longer a slave to sin
 - That you are led by the Spirit
 - That you are God’s adopted child
 - That you are a co-heir with Christ
- How might that knowledge and truth impact you this week?
- How might you live differently because of that truth?