

# WEEK 15 | ROMANS 8:12-17

## ROMANS | THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S POWER

### OTHER HELPFUL PASSAGES.

The following passages may be helpful to you as you consider this text.

- Ephesians 1:3-14
- Ephesians 5:15-20
- John 14:15-31

### THEMES.

The overarching theme of Romans is the gospel—salvation through Jesus Christ. That is important to remember and keep in front of your group, because the letter is a theological masterpiece. But as with any work of art, each brush stroke's true beauty is best seen when the piece as a whole is realized. To that end, we will deal with many sub-themes, but remember that each one weaves together to give the "fullest, plainest and grandest statement of the gospel in the New Testament."<sup>1</sup>

1. While we remain here, our sin nature will continue to plague us, but we don't battle alone. It's ruling power has been broken, and we are promised full and final deliverance eternally through Jesus Christ.
2. All who place their faith in Jesus have been adopted as sons of God, and partake in his heavenly blessings.
3. All who trust in Jesus Christ have been given the Holy Spirit, who frees us in Christ Jesus and empowers us to live a life marked by faithfulness.

### QUESTIONS.

Feel free use any, all, or none of these questions as you facilitate your group. Their purpose is to be an aid to you as you consider how to teach the implications of the week's Scriptures.

1. Did the Holy Spirit use last week's passage or sermon to convict, challenge, or encourage you in any way? Did he use it to confirm or answer a prayer in any way? If you're willing, share with the group.
2. According to v. 14, all who are led by the Spirit are sons of God. What does it mean to be adopted by God? How is an individual led by the Spirit?
3. This passage serves as a great reminder of the privileges we get to enjoy as children of God. What gospel truth do we need to be reminded of today? Why is this so important to you?
4. God often uses trials like mirrors to reveal to us the content of our hearts (flesh residue) in order that our faith may be refined. Are you currently experiencing a trial that is exposing hidden sin? If so, what areas of the flesh might you need to put to death? How are you opening your heart to the leading of the Holy Spirit?
5. How can this Community Group help you respond the way God has called you to respond?

### PRAY TO CLOSE.

Ask yourselves:

1. Where do I need the Holy Spirit's help, comfort, correction, encouragement, etc.?
2. What would it look like for me to walk forward in the freedom provided by the Holy Spirit?

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<sup>1</sup> John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Romans: God's good news for the world*. (Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994), 19.