Bible Class **Notes**

Wednesday, 23 September 2026

Led by the Spirit

Romans 8, ESV

Paul was already angry about this in Galatia. The church had received the Spirit, then tried to finish the Christian life by muscle.

"Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith?"
Galatians 3:2–5

They did not know how a believer opens to the Spirit's work. They thought the door was effort. The door is hearing with faith: believing, receiving, surrendering. A lot of Christians still make that split. We know we were saved by grace and by the Spirit. Then we try to go on by ourselves. The Spirit did not arrive, tell the truth, save us, and leave. The Christian life keeps running on the same power that started it.

That matters because the Spirit is the point of contact between the Father, the Son, and the believer. Misunderstand him and the whole relationship goes wrong. Romans 8 is Paul explaining how that contact actually works.

From Bondage to No Condemnation

Romans 8 opens with "therefore." Behind it is the cry at the end of chapter 7. Left to himself, Paul says, his nature is flesh: worldly in its views, desires, and actions. Left there, a person is a slave.

"Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?"
Romans 7:24

Chapter 8 is the answer.

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1–2

Who will set me free? If you are in Christ, you have been set free: free from the law of sin, free from the law of death. Romans 7 is the person left alone. Romans 8 is the person as a Christian. Chapter 7 does not vanish at conversion. The want-to-do-right and the hate-what-I-do are still there. Stay in the flesh, trying to be a good Christian by yourself, and you are still in 7: failing, bound, dead. The difference between the two chapters is the Holy Spirit.

Led by the Spirit

Romans 8:4–17 is the main point that Paul hits hard and multiple times. Paul says it until it cannot be missed: you go where the mind is set.

"For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God." Romans 8:5–8

A fleshly life thinks about the world, wants the world, reads the world, keeps company with the world. A spiritual life thinks about the things of the Spirit. There are not three camps. You are not 50/50. At this moment, you are either flesh-minded or Spirit-minded.

The natural mind cannot repair itself. It is hostile to God. It cannot submit. Those in the flesh cannot please God. So, the spiritual mindset is a gift. David already knew that.

"Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain! Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things." Psalm 119:36–37

Two inclinations: the testimonies, or gain. Solomon prayed the same way at the temple: that the Lord would "incline" Israel's hearts to himself. Who? The Lord, God has to do it. That does not mean he drags a person against the will. Incline leaves room for asking. If you know you are worldly under the Sunday clothes, ask him to change the heart. If you are Spirit-minded and still

drawn to worldly matters, mixed matters of the flesh and spirit, pray about the mix. If you think you are far along, ask him to keep you from the wrong way and take you farther down the right one.

The Spirit Lives in You

Verses 9–11 take the next step. The Spirit does not only set the mind. He lives in the believer. That is the power of the Christian life. Paul prayed in Ephesians 3:16 that the church would know the power at work within them through the Spirit. Holiness, a separateness from world-mindedness is what that power produces.

"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." Romans 8:13

Victory over sin is not self-help; it is Spirit-help. It is the Spirit working in you putting the deeds to death. The Spirit is the one who can actually do it. People stay stuck because they keep looking for a way to do it alone. It is impossible alone.

Children, Not Slaves

Paul wants supreme confidence in the relationship with the Spirit.

"For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!' The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him." Romans 8:14–17

Led by the Spirit means family, not merely hired help. There is a sense in which we are compelled to obey, as a slave is compelled to obey, but that is not the last word. God looks at the believer and sees a precious son or a daughter. The Spirit is given, not earned. We do not whisper Abba. We cry out, because the news is that good. The Spirit testifies with our spirit. Some hear that as the Spirit speaking to our spirit, which Galatians 4:6 supports: God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Some hear two witnesses speaking to God, the old requirement of two or three: we cry Father, and the Spirit says the same. Either way

Paul is locking the door on fear. Children are heirs. Fellow heirs with Christ means we get what he gets, the glory and the suffering. That sentence is the introduction to the next section.

Glory Not Worth Comparing

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." Romans 8:18

Creation will be set free. This passage does not say the material world is torched and forgotten. When Adam sinned, God put the whole creation under a curse, the rocks and trees. It has been groaning since. When Jesus returns it will be released from that pain. Other texts say more about fire and an end. **Something good for creation stands between the coming of Jesus and whatever end God has appointed. Do not flatten the verse.**

Believers will be revealed. The glory is already there. It is hidden, as the Lord's glory was hidden until the transfiguration. When he comes, it will show. Unbelievers will see what they did not see. We will be freed from the world's wreckage. We will be glorified. We will be adopted. The concept of "already and not yet" runs through the whole Christian life. We are already sanctified, not yet fully. Already saved, not yet fully. Already adopted, not yet home. Using the example of an adoption of a child. Papers can be finished while the child is still in another country. The adoption is real. It is not finished until someone comes and brings the child home. Redemption works the same way.

The Spirit Helps Us Pray

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." Romans 8:26–27

Likewise sends you backward toward a previous phrase. The best link is verse 16: the Spirit bears witness, and in the same way the Spirit helps. Even the most eloquent prayer still does not pray as it should. Paul puts himself in that sentence. So the Spirit intercedes according to the will of God. That is why the next sentence can be as large as it is.

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

The Spirit asks according to God's will. God works the circumstances for the good of those who love him. Paul then traces a line more precise than a general invitation that anyone may happen to answer. Those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son. Those he predestined he also called. Those he called he also justified. Those he justified he also glorified. The called and the justified are the same group, not a wide call with a smaller justified subset. Glory is already spoken of as done. Take confidence: God knew you and called you; it is not merely that you wandered into His family uninvited and unnoticed.

If God Is For Us

Then the questions are all rhetorical. If God is for us, who can be against us? People can stand against you. It does not finally matter. He who did not spare his own Son will give what is needed. Who will bring a charge against God's elect? Who will condemn? In the end, the charges will not stick because it is God who is the judge and it is his precious law of salvation to which Christians have been obedient. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Nobody. Nothing.

How We Are Filled with the Spirit

Believe in Jesus. John 7 says the one who believes receives the Spirit. Repent and be baptized. Acts 2:38 joins forgiveness and the gift of the Spirit. Stay with the church, because the church is the Spirit's temple; time with the people of God is time with him. Set the mind on the Spirit, which is the burden of this chapter, and ask God to do what you cannot. Jesus said the Father gives the Spirit to those who ask (Luke 11:13). Take in the word. Do not quench the Spirit. Let him speak to you and through you to transform you.

How We Know

The slide at the end of class put the test in questions. Churches often lean on one marker and ignore the rest. All of them belong together. This is the great temptation that Spirit-led people have to address; can I read all of the scriptures, some seemingly contradictory and difficult, take what is clear and apply it, and say "I just don't know" regarding the other parts.

Have you obeyed God, and do you still obey him?

"And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." Acts 5:32

Are you becoming more like Jesus?

"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18

Do you glorify, praise, and worship Jesus?

"He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you." John 16:14

The Spirit's work is to glorify the Son. If the Spirit fills a person, that person will praise the Son. Silence about Jesus is not a Spirit-filled life.

Do you produce spiritual fruit?

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22–23

Do you have victory over the flesh and sin?

"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh." Galatians 5:16

Romans 8:13 has already said the same thing: by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body.

Do you have inner realities like joy, hope, and comfort?

"And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit." 1 Thessalonians 1:6

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

"So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied." Acts 9:31

"And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" Galatians 4:6

It is not enough to say, I was baptized, so I have the Spirit whether I feel anything or not. Scripture ties the Spirit's presence to fruit you can notice. It is also not enough to chase a warm feeling and ignore obedience. If either side is missing, something is wrong.

Coming Weeks

Next week is a singing night. In two weeks a new October class begins: Encouraging One Another, starting in Hebrews 10:19–25. To be ready, read that paragraph. The first Wednesday in October also begins a prayer meeting before the evening class.

Original Capture

Verbatim dictation from the Wednesday class, kept here so the polished manuscript can be checked against the original words.

Affected by the flesh in other words by your own effort does he provide you with the spirit and works miracles among you do it by works of law or by hearing with faith and so their misunderstanding of the Holy Spirit was multifaceted he mentions two or three things in that section ways that we need to be aware of how the Holy Spirit works that they were misunderstanding he says did you receive the Holy Spirit by works of law or by hearing with faith they didn't know how the spirit worked they didn't know how a believer opens up himself or herself to the spirit's work they thought it was their effort and their work rather than by hearing with faith believing and accepting receiving surrendering this is having begun by the spirit are you now being perfected by the flag this is a mistake I think a lot of Christians make that we know that we're saved by things like grace and the operation the Holy Spirit and we know we're saved by things but we don't really understand that we go on in those same things we go on by grace we go on by faith we go on by the Holy Spirit the Holy Spirit didn't show up tell us the truth save us and go away but as we go through the Christian life we continue to operate power does he provide you with the spirit and works miracles among you do it by works of law or hearing by faith how does the Holy Spirit operate they didn't know and so he's very upset you can tell by the words he uses and the tone of his language that he's very upset that they don't understand how the Holy Spirit works and rightfully so because the Holy Spirit is the point of contact between the father and son and the believer there's the middle man about the way of a point of contact between father and son and believer and it's the Holy Spirit and so if you misunderstand that how that operates then you're you you got a bad situation and so in Romans chapter 8 Paul is going to say a lot about that let's get into Romans 8 beginning in Chapter 7 just to notice how you'll notice that in verse one of Romans 8IN verse one it begins with what word therefore right first thing you guys do figure out what's going on and what's he connecting it to there's a way to view it that connects Romans 81 to the very end of seven there's a way to view it that connects it to 1 to won't get into all that let's just sort of catch up by looking at the main point of the latter part of Roman 7 where Paul says I am a flesh stoned into bondage to sin and so Paul says that my human nature is fleshly it's carnal it's worldly it's physical he says that my human nature is physical in its views desires and actions if I am left to myself and this is true of you as well if I'm left to myself I it's all worldly it's all physical it's all carnal so in fact it's we're so deep into it he says that we're slaves to it we're slaves to sin left on our own he says who will set me free from the body of this death I was free from what free from bondage to sin who how can I escape that because I want to get out of this bondage to sin well chapter 8 and verses one through 4 describes how that happens and he makes the statement there is therefore now no condemnation for those in Christ and so notice that he has he he's been agonizing about death he's dead he's dying he's going to die eternally but what has happened now that he's in Christ he is set free from that condemnation and he will go on to say in Romans chapter 8 the law of the

spirit of life in Christ Jesus has noticed set you free remember what his question was who will what who will set me free what does he say if you're a Christian you've been what set free it's these these juries looking he's referencing back to that direct that's intentional he's telling us in Romans 7 here you are left on your own in Romans 8 you say here you are as a Christian so the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of life see why was he in bondage to see it what is he now set free from the law sin and he set free from the law of what death what was he agonizing over his own death and so Romans 7 says here you are as an unbeliever Romans 8 says here you are as a believer now Romans 7 doesn't go away and we all understand this Romans 7 doesn't disappear because you went from Romans 7 into Romans 8 when you were converted Romans 7 didn't disappear like do you still have the struggles he talks about do you still sometimes want to do right and do wrong do you still sometimes hate that you do the wrong thing Romans 7 doesn't disappear as long as you're trying in your flesh to be a good Christian you're in Romans 7 you're failing you're dead you're in bondage what's the difference between Romans 7 and Romans 8 is the Holy Spirit that's the difference that is his emphasis in Romans 8 and that's what we'll talk about so Romans 8 Paul describes being led by the Holy Spirit OK so that's what we're going to talk about tonight here's the outline that we will go by he talks about being led by the spirit versus four to seven what does it mean to be led by the spirit he talks about if you are in Christ if you're a Christian you have a bright future and we'll talk about at each point we'll talk about how one section segues into the next and so there's there's connective tissue there to all of that so we're going to be glorified when it's all said and done all things are working together for our good and a conclusion So what basically is what he says at the end of the chapter so let's talk about being led by the spirit of God this is Romans 84 to 17 Romans 84 to 17 the main theme he repeats it many times so in verse 5 he says that those who are fleshless those who live a fleshly life do what in verse 5 and he's gonna repeat this phraseology over and over in this brief section those who are fleshly do what what does that mean that's what they want to do it's what they think about it's what they focused on it's what they read it's what they meditate on it's what they want it's what they listen to it's who they hang around everything about them their mindset is physical it's on the world that's what they think about that's where their mind is all the time but those who are according to spirits those who are spiritual what are they thinking about things in the spirit it says it again in 6th mindset on the flesh mindset on the spirit he says it again in seven mindset on the flesh he says it like 5 times that idea of mindset and So what he's saying is that you will go the direction that your mind is set on you will be the kind of person that your mind makes you become whatever you're focused design is going to determine who you are and what you become your mindset is everything and you only have two choices what are they flesh and spirit bless and spirit world and spirit physical and spiritual you only have two choices right now you're in one of two camps yet there's only ones there are you you can't have 50506040 and the rest of those all mess up some terrible matter but you know what I'm saying you can't have it both ways right now you are either a fleshly minded person or a spirit minded person it's all there is and so how do we address that if we know the corrections need to be made well he tells us in verses 7 and 8 that your natural human

mindset is something you're stuck with your natural human mindset is something you're stuck with look what he says the first things bond to simplifies is hostile toward God it does not subject itself to the law of God why not you can't it's not able to your natural human condition is unable to fix your mind on spiritual things those who are in the flesh what don't want what what please God can he says you can't that's your natural physical human condition you can't do it so if you can't do it who has to do it And that's exactly what the Bible said the Bible says that the spiritual mindset is God-given a spiritual mindset is God-given just a couple of passages about that Psalm 119 in climb my heart this is a prayer incline my heart to your testimonies and not to gain it's almost like Paul had read this verse notice the two options there's two ways you can incline your heart to what to God's testimonies which is spiritual or what to gain which is the world turn away my eyes from looking at band uselessness worthlessness material things that's a prayer he is praying to God and saying my natural bent is worldly if I'm gonna be spirit minded then who's gotta do it losing that God has to do it saw Solomon said in his prayer at the temple dedication may the Lord incline our hearts to himself to walk in his ways God has to do it it's a supernatural thing so if we want that thing so tonight let's just say let's give three out of two options 3 so let's say tonight you are fleshly minded your physical mind and you know you come to church you dress up you act like a Christian pray like but you know you're worldly you know you are chances are good that you may not even have a lot of inclination to want to do anything different but what do you need to be doing is what and asking for adopt to change your heart let's say that your your spirit minded but you still got a lot of worldly in there what do you need to do about that what they do about it they prayed about it let's say that you believe that you're very spiritually minded and that's OK if you do not nobody ever wants to admit that if I say raise your hand to be thick you're very spiritually minded nobody would raise your hand they want to pry it right if you might be I think some of you probably are what do you need to be praying keep me from going the wrong way and take me farther the right way right and so this is what Paul is is telling us here is that this physical mindset is beyond your capability to repair only God can do it you need to let him do it but I asked him to do it Speaking of prayer I want to mention this real quick those have agreed to let us have on Wednesday night starting in October a prayer meeting before the Wednesday night meeting right and so remember October the first Wednesday in October It's not got to do it and but we don't want to get under the impression that God does it against our will and that's why I use the word incline instead of Lord make sure or whatever yeah no absolutely we have to to 1 certain inclined it room for God's gonna do it but only at your ask certainly at your your desire even if it's a little verses 9 through 11 he's gonna say it here that not only if you're a believer do you need to be spirit minded he's gonna take it a step further and he's gonna say the spirit actually lives in you this is verses 9 through 11 this Holy Spirit lives in you this is how you're able to do what you need to do as a Christian this is the power right Paul Paul said in ephesians 316 he prayed that we would know and understand the power within us through the Holy Spirit and so this is how we do the Christian life and then he says the result of that verses 12 and 13 is holiness the result of that verses 12 and 13 because verse 13 look at the end of 13 if I notice every phrase if what fine so whatever's getting done here who's doing it the spirit

is doing if by the spirit you are what putting to death the deeds of the body so if you are having victory over sin who's giving the victory right now you gotta do something I mean look it says if by the spirit you are put into that right you gotta you gotta make it work but the spirit is the one doing you can't do it on your own and that's the problem with so many that's not so many of them get stuck in sin and can't get out because we're trying to figure out how we can do it and we can it's impossible and so holiness results in the work of the Holy Spirit and then finally in this section he wants to give us great confidence look at all who are being led by the spirit of God or what now what he's going to do in this section is try to give you supreme confidence in your relationship with God all who are being led by the spirit of God are sons of God in other words what sort of relationship do you have the daughters to and sons and daughters what sort of relationship do you have with God if the Holy Spirit is living in you and guiding you family your family your family with God he's trying to give you supreme confidence 4 you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again you you're not you are a slave of God in a sense but not in not in the biggest sense you are bound to obey God and do his will so you're a slave of God but ultimately when God looks like you how does he see you child as a son or a daughter as a child you haven't received the spirit of slavery but you have received notice the passage you have received it God gave it to you you have received a spirit of adoption of sons by which we cried out I have a father why do you think we cry about why don't you why don't you say we whisper it we say it we speak it why did he say we cried it out proud and you're confident in it you're confident in it because you're excited about it right if you if you were you know adopted by a billionaire you know and and you got the letter and he said hey I've adopted you I want you to come live in my mansion and ride on my boat flying my plane and all that stuff and I'm gonna send the limo to pick you up and send the limo and drove me to the house and you got out and there he stood you wouldn't go you go down you yell you're excited you're you're you're thrilled we cry it out verse 16 there's somebody else crying out the spirit himself notice the spirit so we're crying out have a father the spirit himself does what bears witness or testifies what's the idea that the spirit testifies with our spirit that we are children of God what's the idea there what is he trying he's trying to give you supreme confidence how is he doing that reinforcing and how is that how is he reinforcing your crying out have a father what's the spirit doing he's confirming it he's saying yes that's right now there's a lot of disagreement here about who the spirit is testifying to he could be testifying to our spirit that's the one I want I like that one and it's biblical it's biblical galatians 460 has sent the spirit of his son into our hearts crying ABBA father it's it's a biblical view the spirit is testifying to our spirit that's possible but it could be saying the spirit testifies with our spirit to God that I'm saying to God you're my father and the Holy Spirit is saying the same thing he intercedes he intercedes right and we'll come back to the intersection that's right So what some people think what Paul is doing here is going back to that Old Testament principle about evidence has to be established based on what the evidence of two or three witnesses so here we're crying out to God that's one witness the Holy Spirit is crying out to God we are his children so that's how many witnesses and Paul says done deal that's it it's straight towards it it's right so he's trying to give us confidence in our family relationship to God

So what he says we are children of God verse 17 if we're children what else are we body of necessity what right because Isaiah Jack Rhiannon lucky fortunate crazy lucky kids that they are are my children therefore they are my what they will be heir to the price for two they will be heir they will each get 1/3 a share of whatever debt Tracy and I leave lucky lucky kids so if you're a child you're an heir now what does the word heir do what what's what should you be thinking when you hear air HER what should you be thinking yes now later right there's something in the future notice what else we offer we are heirs of God because we're his children and what fellow heirs with Christ what does that mean we get what he got we get what he gets that's exactly right we get what he gets which takes another level now what that means is so if you're going to be joined with Christ yeah you're gonna get good stuff what else you gonna get bad stuff if we suffer with him so that we may be glorified with him so suffering is part of the package and that then leads to the next section versus 18 to 24 the segue is look at the 17th that we may be glorified with him look at verse 18 not worthy to be compared with what glory so notice that connection there that's the same way he mentions the glory and the suffering now he mentions it again and in verses 18 through 2425 rather sorry he's going to talk about the glory to be revealed to us verse 18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are what not worthy to be compared with the glory to be revealed to us my daughter-in-law just had my actual daughter-in-law unfortunately to make that very clear my daughter-in-law had a baby yesterday and so I'm sure that and he's been telling hope friends been tough you know late and liver and all that stuff so I'm sure she's gonna do that thing that all women do at least I don't know what I've heard all women do right when when you say to them like several years later maybe 10 maybe 4050 years later you know you say how hard was it you know what I was oh it was it wasn't that bad when I saw that baby and laid my hands it just all went it just didn't know anything that happened right the glory and joy and beauty of holding the baby Two things are gonna happen when Jesus comes back two things are gonna happen versus 19 to 22 creation will be set free he does not say creation will be destroyed that's not what he says here who doesn't say what we always say that that the material universe is going to be destroyed by fire doesn't say that here what he says is that when Adam sinned God put creation under a curse the whole thing the whole universe is under the curse and ever since that the creation has been groaning in pain because creation suffers because of man's sin it will be released from that it will be freed from that suffering when Jesus comes back that's all I know there are other Bible passages that indicate that God has something in store for the physical creation colossians is a big one what it means are ephesians 2 I I don't know what that means and I do know that eventually at some point the physical universe will be destroyed but there's gonna be something that happens between the return of Jesus and the destruction of the universe that is good for creation I don't know what I have no clue what it is but something's out there and I just I just don't want us to be too shallow or flippant when we just make these I'd all be destroyed yeah but something first I don't know where it is but the main thing we need to get from that is verse 19 to 25 we believers will have 5 things happen to us number one we will be revealed we will be revealed what do you think that means will be revealed we're already here I can already see you like the creation like the creation will be

revealed it'll be new it'll be something better so will we yeah I think that's a lot of it like so a lot of it is like the transfiguration right so Jesus Jesus physical body disguised of glory that came out in the transfiguration it came out after resurrection it's in heaven now as believers we have a glory right where glory is you just can't see it but when Jesus comes back what's gonna happen we're all going to be glorified and unbelievers will look at us and go wow I didn't see that coming will be shown to be who we are I never knew they were like that will be free right set free from the world and every problem with the world will be glorified will be adopted I thought we were already already adopted I thought we're already adopted how will we be adopted when Jesus comes back so there's several things that are true of Christians that are already and not yet the already not yet is a really big Bible concept that we need to understand because it it makes it solves a lot of phony issues we are already sanctified but not yet fully sanctified we're already saved not yet fully saved we're already adopted but not yet fully adopted and that adoption of the consolidated so imagine that a couple decides to adopt and they go through the process they're adopting the baby in a foreign country and they go through the process to the paperwork goes through all the bills are paid everything is official but the baby is still in the 400 have they adopted the baby yeah yes but what I ain't got it yet it hasn't been made fully real and actual yet till they go and get it and bring it home we're already adopted but Jesus has not yet come and brought us home and so our adoption in a sense is future same thing with redemption we've already been redeemed already but not yet the way we will be fully and so now he's going to get into some more teaching about the help of the spirit so notice in verse 26 what's the first thing he says in the same way or James you're saying likewise or something like that James so there's you have something at the beginning of that verse that's either in the same way or likewise what does that do what does that tell you what do you need to do you gotta go back because he's comparing it to something else I think there's several options I think the best option is all the way back in verse 16 he says the spirit testifies with our spirit verse 26 in the same way the spirit helps the spirit also helps our weakness by doing what what does he do for us he intercedes for us we don't know how to pray as we should you can be the most awesome prayer the most awesome prayer leader the most eloquent prayer leader the most beautifully spoken prayer leader you can just make people weep with your eloquence and prayer and you don't have to pray like you should we don't have to pray like we should we don't Paul includes himself in that So what does God have to do the Holy Spirit has to intercede there's also a possible connection between the groaning in verse 26 and the groaning in 18 to 25 just FY so the Holy Spirit intercedes for us now look at what he says verse 27 he the holy Camilla verse he he Holy Spirit intercedes for the Saints according to the will of God well why does that help verse 28 because we know that what so notice that notice it again notice the connection again he intercedes for the Saints according to the will of God and we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God in other words the Holy Spirit is going and interceding for us and and God is working things out and you know that God is working them out how for our good right now here's why we know that verse 28 we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God to those who are called according to his purpose now Paul is going to use some

words that that can present problems here I'm just gonna tell you what I think about it I'm not gonna get into it 'cause I don't know that I fully understand it I just wanna suggest something to you for your consideration that what Paul says about the specificity of who is saved is a little more precise then he puts out a general call and whoever answers it is his predestined believer I think there's something more precise than that I don't think that gets it and and so let's look at it and I'll just I'm not going to get into it but you think about it and we can talk about it verse 29 those assuming 4 new what does that mean for you right so God knew something well but to be more precise he knew somebody OK before you ever became a Christian and I think before creation I think whatever but before you became a Christian God foreknew you would would you agree with that God foreknew you those who before knew he also predestined so he determined before him these people that I already know we're going to be Christians I am saying right now they're gonna become conformed to the image of my son OK verse 30 these whom he predestined he also called so whoever that was that he knew was going to be a Christian when the time was right what did he do he called them he called them he said hey I I want you these whom he called he also justified now I want you to notice that the called and the justified are the same group the called are not a bigger group and then some within the call are justified the called and the justified are the same group it's the same group this is not this isn't I'm not saying it never is this is not God called everybody and so people respond this is God called who he wanted and he justified them that's what it's saying and these to me justified he also glorified notice again your glory is already in existence already here So I'm not trying to stay in that I'm not saying that this idea that God before tossed the president this is more precise than that the same ones who were called were justified why is Paul telling them this because it gives me much more confidence if I know that God saw me and called me specifically rather than just hey MO David showed up good that I was in the mind of God already in some fashion so just give that simple so the conclusion that Paul gives what shall we say his question means So what what does all this mean if God is for us these are all rhetorical questions if God is for us who's against us answer right now is anybody against you right a lot of people are against you but what what's his point it doesn't matter because God's for you who cares right new chairs they look if I've got the United states Marine Corps behind me I don't care who's against me I win care they got it right and that's what he's saying will he not give us all things if he did not spare his son but killed his son for us won't he give you anything you need what's the answer yes rhetorical question who will bring a charge against God's elect who is the one who condemns is anybody gonna try to charge you with blame is anybody gonna try that yet is anybody gonna try to continue yet will it stick no because God and Jesus have got your back rhetorical question who will separate us from the love of Christ answer nobody and nothing nobody and nothing that's what he says there in that chapter now very quickly and I know more time but I really want to get this in because this was talked about last week let me just do this quickly how are we filled with the Holy Spirit right so if you hear all this he said wow I'd like to be filled with Holy Spirit how do I do that so believe in Jesus John Chapter 7 crucial passes John Chapter 7 believe in Jesus and you'll be filled with the Holy Spirit repent and be baptized acts 238 repent be baptized and we want to be from the

beginning of your sins and one you seem to get the Holy Spirit right so if you've done that then you have the Holy Spirit connect to the church because the church is the what of the Holy Spirit when you are with God's people who are you also spending time with the Holy Spirit set your mind on the spirit Romans 8 which we talked about what you have to do you have to pray about and let God do for you pray for more of him Luke 1113 if you being evil know how to give you give good gifts your children how much more will your father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him take in the word do not quench all the spirit but let him speak to you through his word that's how you are filled with the Holy Spirit how do I know I understand that this was a question that came up last week and I really wanted to hit this quickly how do I know if I'm filled with the Holy Spirit so there's two things I think there's two things and I think they both go together I think I think in the church I think we over emphasize one and completely neglect the other but I think they both go together how do I know have you obeyed God and do you obey God that is a marker as to whether or not you are filled with the Holy Spirit have you obeyed him do you obey him are you becoming more like Jesus if you're not then you're not allowing the spirit to work 2nd Corinthians 318 do you glorify praise and worship Jesus because what Jesus say I will send you another helper and when he will come when he comes he will glorify me if the Holy Spirit glorifies Jesus and you're filled with the spirit what will you do if you do not praise and glorify Jesus you're not filled with the spirit because that's what he does do you produce spiritual fruit galatians 5 do you have victory over the flesh and sin do you have any realities like joy hope and comfort in the church I think we do too much of the if you were pregnant be baptized God says you have the spirit so you do whether you feel or not I think that's what we do in church if you repent and get baptized God says you're full of the Holy Spirit whether you feel it or not I don't feel it well that doesn't matter because you are that's not what the Bible says because the Bible says when you're filled with the Holy Spirit you'll feel it what will you feel joy comfort hope peace if you don't feel it something is wrong so we can't go so far one way and say well God says it so you are but it doesn't feel like it we can't go too far the other way and say well as long as you got corn fuzzies all the time you get them go but it takes both and if you don't have one or the other you don't have the Holy Spirit so next week Lord willing we're going to talk about begin a new class not next week two weeks next week is singing in two weeks we're going to start a new class for the month of October encouraging one another and we'll start with Hebrews 10/19 through 25 who had told us