

The Faith Advantage Part 2: Acceptance
Romans 8:5-13

Getting Started

- ❖ Dr. Randy Pope started us off in this series of messages by stressing that we know we are accepted because of the testimony of God's Word. What phrases or words or ideas in Romans 8:1-4 communicate this to you?
- ❖ Do you ever feel under "condemnation"? What causes you to feel this way and how will you make sure you remember "there is now no condemnation" next time?
- ❖ **Opening Prayer Time:** Share with one another the obstacles you experience in your sanctification. Pray for one another that God would give us the grace we need to overcome these obstacles through the Holy Spirit's power.

Digging Deeper

- ❖ **Reread and discuss Romans 8:5-13.**
 - This passage speaks quite a bit about the Holy Spirit. What words or phrases do you typically use to describe the Holy Spirit being present and at work in your life? When have you experienced those things in greatest measure?
 - In Romans 8:5-8, Paul says that there are only two kinds of people: of the flesh and of the Spirit, with no neutral position. Given this teaching, how should we regard kind and loving non-Christians? How should we regard Christians who seem judgmental? How should this affect our relationships with Christians and non-Christians?
 - Identify the phrases and concepts in this passage that put the Trinity before us. How can seeing the gift of eternal life and our sanctification as a Triune work help us in our relationship with each Person of the Godhead?
- ❖ **Read Mark 8:31-34; Col. 3:1-4; Phil. 4:8.** How do these passages encourage us to think according to the Spirit?
- ❖ **Applying this sermon to Our Lives**
 - Jerry gave three application points from verses 12-13 under the labels of *Recognize*, *Resist* and *Rely*. Discuss with each other the biblical truths behind these points. Which of these points do you see most clearly in your life and which do you struggle with the most?
 - What do you do with your solitude and "down-time"? How will you fix your thoughts on the gospel today?

(Over)

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Think About It!

Longing, breathing, and panting after deliverance is a grace in itself, that has a mighty power to conform the soul into the likeness of the thing longed after...unless you long for deliverance you shall not have it... The choicest believers, who are assuredly freed from the condemning power of sin, ought yet to make it their business all their days to mortify the indwelling power of sin. (John Owen, The Mortification of Sin)

Praying Together

This week let's read aloud Scriptures that remind us of the person and work of the Holy Spirit. After reading the passage, spend 1-2 minutes in silent prayer over the passage applying it to your life and needs; then have someone pray aloud the truth and blessings of the passage for your group.

- Eph. 1:13-14--- The Holy Spirit is the “down-payment” of our inheritance.
- Acts 1:8--- The Holy Spirit is the source of spiritual power so we can serve our Lord.
- John 14:15-17, 26--- The Holy Spirit is our “helper” and “teacher”.
- Isaiah 11:2-3--- The Holy Spirit give us wisdom.
- 1 Cor. 6:19-20--- The Holy Spirit lives within us.

(Note: In this year's study of Romans, our study questions are being inspired by or derived from books, commentaries and bible studies authored by: Pastors Matt Smith, Max Lucado, John MacArthur, R.C. Sproul, Jack Hayford and Tim Keller.)

WORSHIP RESOURCE

January 19, 2020 | Second Sunday after Epiphany

WORSHIP SONGS

FOUND IN YOU

Words and Music by Andi Rozier, Jason Ingram, and Paul Baloche, 2013

We're reaching out to welcome You God. Fill this place again with Your song. Flood our thoughts with wonder and awe. Give us a greater glimpse of a never changing God.

All we want and all we need is found in You, found in You. Jesus, every victory is found in You, found in You.

Open wide our hearts now to Yours. Every fear bow down to Your love, that we would see like never before. Give us a greater glimpse of a never changing God.

In your presence there is freedom.
In your presence we are made whole.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS (BEGINNING TO END)

Words by Thomas Chisholm, Jason Ingram, and Michael Weaver / Music by William Runyan, Jason Ingram, and Michael Weaver, 2018

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father. There is no shadow of turning with Thee. Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not. As Thou has been, Thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest; sun, moon and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Beginning to end, my life in Your hands.
Great, great is Your faithfulness. You never let go, this one thing I know; great, great is Your faithfulness.*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth. Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide. Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow; blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

Great is Thy faithfulness. Great is Thy faithfulness. Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed Thy hand hath provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

TREMBLE

Words and Music by Mia Fiedles, Hank Bentley, Mariah McManus, and Andres Figueroa, 2016

Peace, bring it all to peace.
The storms surrounding me, let it break at Your name.
Still, call the sea to still,
the rage in me to still, every wave at Your name.

*Jesus, Jesus, You make the darkness tremble.
Jesus, Jesus, You silence fear.
Jesus, Jesus, You make the darkness tremble. Jesus, Jesus.*

Breathe, call these bones to live,
call these lungs to sing. Once again I will praise.

Your name is a light that the shadows can't deny. Your name cannot be overcome. Your name is alive, forever lifted high. Your name cannot be overcome.

HOLY SPIRIT

Words and Music by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, 2006

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul. Let the presence of the risen Lord come renew my heart and make me whole. Cause your word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see. Give me passion for your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within, may your joy be seen in all I do. Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and deed and attitude. Kindness to the greatest and the least; gentleness that sows the path of peace. Turn my strivings into works of grace; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made. Show your power once again on earth, cause your church to hunger for your ways. Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; lead us on the road of sacrifice, that in unity the face of Christ may be clear for all the world to see.

DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 19; Genesis 7:1-23; Eph. 4:1-16; Mark 3:7-19
MONDAY | Ps. 135; Genesis 8:6-22; Heb. 4:14-5:6; John 2:23-3:15
TUESDAY | Ps. 123; Genesis 9:1-17; Hebrews 5:7-14; John 3:16-21
WEDNESDAY | Ps. 15; Genesis 9:18-29; Heb. 6:1-12; John 3:22-36
THURSDAY | Ps. 36; Genesis 11:1-9; Heb. 6:13-20; John 4:1-15
FRIDAY | Ps. 139; Genesis 11:27-12:8; Heb. 7:1-17; John 4:16-26
SATURDAY | Ps. 56; Genesis 12:9-13:1; Heb. 7:18-28; John 4:27-42

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Steadfast God, you have enriched and enlightened us by the revelation of your eternal Christ. Comfort us in our mortality and strengthen us to walk the path of your desire, so that by word and deed we may manifest the gracious news of your faithfulness and love. Amen.



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