

**“A Tale of Two Lifestyles”
(Romans 8:5-11)**

As soon as we receive Christ as Savior, we enter a new realm of life, no longer “*after the flesh*” but now “*after the Spirit!*” We now have the Spirit’s enablement to say no to sin, and to live a life pleasing to God. But, we must continually make the choice whether it will be . . .

I. Life in the Flesh (5-8)

• **Contrasted with the Spirit (5-6)**

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ⁸For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

→ **Different Life Emphasis (5)**

→ **Different Life Experience (6)**

• **Contrary to God (7-8)**

Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. ⁸So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

→ **Incompatibility with Precepts of God (7)**

→ **Incapability to Please God (8)**

II. Life in the Spirit (9-11)

• **Based on the Spirit’s Presence (9-10)**

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. ¹⁰And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

→ **Evidence of Our Salvation (9)**

→ **Evidence of Our Sanctification (10)**

• **Based on the Spirit’s Power (11)**

But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

→ **Power of Christ’s Resurrection (11a)**

→ **Power of Christian’s Resurrection (11b)**

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Our text encourages right choices in our spiritual journey. If you had a choice to travel/journey by plane, train, boat or bus, which would you choose and why?

1. Share something from Sunday’s study that spoke to you personally – a challenge? an encouragement? a good reminder?
2. What is the difference between a spiritually minded person and a fleshly minded person? What are some specific things we can do to cultivate a spiritual mind-set that is pleasing to God? (Consider Rom 12:2; 2 Cor 10:5; and Phil 4:8)
3. What difference does it make in your life that the Holy Spirit dwells in you? (or, what difference “should” it make?)
4. How does Romans 8:11 give us hope? How should the truth of this verse affect the way you live?

Small Group Prayer Time

Using the October missionary prayer sheet, each person pray specifically for two of our missionaries.

Digging Deeper

1. List all the ministries of the Holy Spirit to the Christian that are referred to in Romans 8. What difference does He make in your life?
2. What do each of these verses tell us about the indwelling presence of the Lord by the Holy Spirit – 1 Cor 3:16; 6:19-20; Gal 2:20; 4:6; Eph 1:13-14; 3:16-17; 1 Jn 3:24; 4:13 and John 15:4?
3. How do the following verses show the connection between Christ’s resurrection and our resurrection – Rom 6:4-5; 8:11; 1 Cor 6:14; 15:20-23; 2 Cor 4:14 and 1 Thes 4:14?

For Next Week (Faith Promise Sunday)

Using our October missionary prayer guide, pray for at least two missionaries each day. Take some time to prayerfully review your current Faith Promise giving for missions and decide on the new amount God would have you commit to this great cause.