

- Neighbors God a VCR, Annie, Carol Burnett, Kids in orphanage
- We're adopted. Now, at your adoption God gave you an adoption gift. The Holy Spirit.
- Why? The family members reflect on the Father. The gift of the Holy Spirit allows you to live as a child of God.
- God adopted you because you didn't have a good family before. Adam.
- He wants to give you a real life.
- And so, Paul said in Romans 8:13, "for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live."

Paul is admonishing you not to reject who you are in Christ by giving into your old pre-adopted ways, because that old life was death and leads to death.

- Embrace your identity as God's son or daughter and be who you were adopted to be.
- Who were you adopted to be?
 1. A person no longer condemned for sin. (Romans 8:1)
 2. A person no longer a slave to my old sinful family ways (Adam)
 3. A person equipped by my Father to live as God's kid.
- **Because of this we are to put to death the misdeeds of the body so we can truly live.**
- This gift of the Holy Spirit gives you the power to "put to death the misdeeds of the body" Well, that's kinda violent. That's the point.
- Put to death is serious. It's not just "avoid" Spend less time with.
- This isn't a nice gentle friendly family transfer where we want to be nice to our old parents and have visiting hours and get cards on my birthday.
- **Your old family of Adam is dangerous.** That family wants to lead you do death. It wants you to be a slave and a law-breaker and to never be truly happy and leave you without an inheritance.
- As long as your Adam family is still alive they will fight you
- You have to put Adam to death. Flesh – Israel and Hamas
- **Sin will never live at peace with your new adopted self.**
- So, it says, "put to death the misdeeds of the body". Put to death the residual pre-adoption you! That's not who you are anymore.

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

- God's kids have the Spirit of God and are led by it. PERIOD
 - That doesn't mean we always follow where we are led.
 - God led his people in the desert but they didn't always follow.
 - Sometimes they grumbled, sometimes they disobeyed. But God led.
- How does He lead us? How do we kill the misdeeds of the body?

Romans 8:6 said, ⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

• How do I let my mind be governed by the Spirit? Here's a Key! 1 Cor. 2:13-15 ¹³ This is what we (who's we) speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. ¹⁴ The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

- Paul's own teaching is God-inspired. In God's word we know God. We know His mind.
- Couple that with Ephesians 6:17. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The word of God is not the Spirit, but the Bible is the weapon the Spirit uses to kill sin. To put to death the misdeeds of the body.

- Think about His word. Read it and think about it and meditate on it and let it guide your life. Hear His word and apply faith. Believe it. ¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

One way to know you are God's kid is the Spirit is leading you. Fighting sin, choosing love, obeying God gives us assurance of our salvation. It shows we belong to God.

¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

- Now, it just said "our adoption". Are we born his kids or adopted?
 1. We are said to be adopted because God wants you to remember that you are not naturally part of the family of God. You were naturally from Adam's family and inherited sin from our original daddy, Adam.
 2. When we were adopted and surrender all the rights and burdens of the old family and are given all the rights of a true son of God.
- It says Sonship, but I'm a woman? What about us women?
- Some change that to say child, but "son" is important here.
- Not all kids received the privileges and inheritance. Just sons. Galatians 3:28 ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
- Both men and women in Christ receive the privileges of an adult son in that culture.

What does vs 15 tell us about being adopted sons:

1. **Sonship brings freedom.** God doesn't want us to live in fear of condemnation like a slave who better obey the master or else!!!
2. **Sonship takes away fear.** – fear of the "Or Else".
3. **Adoption means rights of favor and privilege.**
 - a. Kids were legally barely better than slaves. Property of father, no rights of his own. Right came when they reached maturity, adult. Adoption give that to you now.
4. **Sonship brings intimacy.** Abba, Daddy, Papa

¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

- **A good father assures his kid. I love you. You belong with me.**
- The word is “Testify”. People testify in court when something is doubted and needs to be verified.
- **The Holy Spirit (himself) as a person testifies.**
- Here, the spirit needing verification is our own spirit (small s). It's you.
- **Story of God bringing me to Manitoqua as verification of Spirit at work in me and of my Sonship.**
- God didn't do a miracle to bring me to Manitoqua and call me to be the chaplain and later to become a pastor and plant a church and lead SonRise Bible Church for no reason. That's God at work.
- **Parents only direct the lives of their own kids!**
- **That's Evidence that you're His Kid!!!**

¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

- **In High school I knew a girl, ditsy. Met mom. I totally get it.**
- People should see what you do and say and when they find out you are God's redeemed son or daughter, they should say, “Ah, It makes sense. I totally get it.”
- **Does the evidence point to you being His kid?** Then live that reality.
- **Young people.** If you are going to identify as something, Identify as a child of God.
- **Because we are in Christ, we have the privilege of relating to the Father as Jesus does. It says Co-heirs.**
- **Next week we will get into that inheritance but for now, just know it is good to be God's kid.**