

¹¹Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used the commands to kill me. ¹²But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good. ¹³But how can that be? Did the law, which is good, cause my death? Of course not! Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation to death. So we can see how terrible sin really is. It uses God's good commands for its own evil purposes. ¹⁴So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. ¹⁵I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. ¹⁶But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

- 4) What does it mean to be dead to sin, and how does this practically play out in our lives?
- 5) According to the passage, what is defining evidence that summons belonging to Christ?
- 6) Where are you experiencing tension between your old nature and your new identity right now?
- 7) What does it actually look like in real life to be 'controlled by the Spirit' instead of yourself?
- 8) How does viewing God as 'Abba, Father' challenge the way you currently relate to Him? Does your relationship or did your relationship with your own father ever impact or influence how you viewed God?
- 9) If you were fully living out this passage, what would be noticeably different this week?

CHAIR TIME TOOLS

Reflection Questions for Chair Time: think about the following questions and pray through them with Jesus.

²⁰

- 1) Where are you still living under your old nature instead of your new identity?
- 2) What is one step you will take this week to follow the Spirit more intentionally?
- 3) Ask God to show you what 'fully alive' looks like—what stands out?

What Now?

The Week After Easter

Dr. John Jackson | April 12, 2026

“You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.” **Romans 8:9-11 NIV**

3 Questions

3 Answers

Belong to Christ?

Spirit in you

Christ in you?

Spiritually alive

Spiritually alive?

Fully alive!

“And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.” **Romans 8:11 NIV**

“Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.” **Romans 8:12-14 NIV**

You are _____ to a new nature.

You are _____ from the old patterns of behavior.

You receive a new _____.

“For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 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.” **Romans 8:15-17 NIV**

You are _____.

You have _____.

You have _____.

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose.”

Romans 8:28 NIV

“May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope through the power of His Spirit.”

Romans 15:13 NIV

For practical, cross-cultural Bible studies related to sermon topics, visit Dougbrittonbooks.com/resource.

Homework What Now? Spring 2026 | Week 2

Message Date 4/12/2026

MY STORY

- 1) If someone followed you around this week, what would they assume matters most to you?
- 2) What's something in your life that took time before it finally clicked for you?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME

Romans 7:1–17 (NLT)

¹Now, dear brothers and sisters—you who are familiar with the law—don't you know that the law applies only while a person is living? ²For example, when a woman marries, the law binds her to her husband as long as he is alive. But if he dies, the laws of marriage no longer apply to her. ³So while her husband is alive, she would be committing adultery if she married another man. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law and does not commit adultery when she remarries. ⁴So, my dear brothers and sisters, this is the point: You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ. And now you are united with the one who was raised from the dead. As a result, we can produce a harvest of good deeds for God. ⁵When we were controlled by our old nature, sinful desires were at work within us, and the law aroused these evil desires that produced a harvest of sinful deeds, resulting in death. ⁶But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit. ⁷Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, “You must not covet.” ⁸But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power. ⁹At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life, ¹⁰and I died. So I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead.