

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE

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The New Companionship of The Holy Spirit – or Living The Spirit-Controlled Life

**Romans 8 Series: “The Mountain Peak of Scripture –
Our Hymn Of Hope.”**

ROMANS 8:2-11

Last week we learned from **Romans 7** that we all struggle, fail and fall down as we live in this body of **flesh**, and in this sin cursed **world** and are attacked by our arch enemy the **devil**. But also, we learned in **Romans 8: 1** that amazing and awesome truth that,

*“There is therefore now no
condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.”*

Let’s quote that again together.

In that message we looked at the **why, when, what and who**. Today our emphasis will be on how to live all this out from **Romans 8:2-11**. Before we tackle this text, let’s identify six faulty ways to live the Christian life.

Faulty Ways to Live Our Faith

1. Cliché Christianity.
2. Right Rules.
3. Formulaic Faith.
4. Performance Posture.
5. Extra Experiences.
6. Coasting Christianity.

If many of us default to one or more of these faulty ways to live out our faith, how then should we be living? Our passage today gives us three ways. Note: this is not a **formula** but rather a **framework** for living the Spirit-controlled life.

I. FOCUS ON WHAT GOD HAS DONE Vs. 2-4

Vs. 2-4 spell out what God has already done for us. We have been given...

- * **Freedom**. Look at **Verse 2**
- * **Forgiveness**. **Verse 3**
- * **Fulfillment** **Verse 4**

LISTEN CHILD OF GOD

I Am Accepted Because...

I am Secure Because...

I am Significant Because...

The first thing we must do if we’re serious about living the Spirit-controlled life is to **focus on what God has already done**. Secondly...

II. THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT Vs. 5-8

Noticing all the times the word “**mind**” is used 4 times in these verses. The word “**mind**” refers to disposition or attitude and is in the present tense. **Proverbs 4:23** in the KJV says, “*For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he...*” That means that we are what we think. In his book called, “*As a Man Thinketh*,” James Allen writes: “*A man cannot directly choose his circumstances, but he can choose his thoughts, and so indirectly, yet surely, shape his circumstances.*” Let me give you some action steps.

* **Recognize that you’re in a war**. - **Galatians 5:17**

* **Capture each thought and analyze it**. - **2 Corinthians 10:5**

* **Fill your mind with good things**. - **Philippians 4:8**

* **Talk tough to yourself**. - **Colossians 3:2**

III. SUBMIT TO THE SPIRIT’S CONTROL Vs. 9-11

♦ **The Holy Spirit is alive within each Christian** **V-9**.

♦ **The Holy Spirit desires to have control in each Christian’s life** **V-10**.

♦ **The Holy Spirit promises future resurrection for the believer** **V-11**.

Let’s summarize. First, focus on what God has done. Second, think about what you think about. And third, submit to the Spirit’s control. **Galatians 5:16**: “*I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.*”

Last week we learned that God has given us a “thumbs up” because there is no condemnation. Now we learn that we’ve been given the companionship of the Holy Spirit...and He’s with us all the way. Don’t settle for cheap imitations.