

LIVING IN THE FULLNESS OF THE SPIRIT



Christian Life Center, A Foursquare Church | DiscipleshipDevelopment.org

Part 2 | **LIVING A VICTORIOUS LIFE** | Romans 8:1-11

Paul wrote the book of Romans in preparation for his visit to the church in Rome where he was imprisoned. Believers fled from Jerusalem and settled there after the outpouring of the Spirit and the rising persecution (Acts 8:3-4). Because the church had become a mixture of Jew and Gentile believers — with rising tension — he felt the need to write a letter to explain the overview of God’s Master Plan of Salvation. Today we will briefly look at chapter 8:1-11. This powerful chapter outlines the principles to live victoriously in an ever-changing world. (Scan the code in the heading to read Romans 8).

1. **Be convinced of our FREEDOM from the dominion of our sinful nature.** Verses 1-4

- Through faith in, and knowledge (Hosea 4:6) of Christ’s completed work on the cross, we understand that our sinful, carnal, nature really has no hold on us — we’ve been absolutely freed from it’s dominion and tyranny!
- The great exchange in 2 Corinthians 5:21 *God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.* (Scan the code to learn more)
- Spiritual victory is a progressive and transformational journey as we align our thoughts and actions in obedience to His teachings. The key lies in Galatians 5:16-18 *Walk in with the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh...*



2. **Understand the power of a MINDSET** (our mind fixed on...) Verses 5-8

- A “mindset” is a deeply held belief that shapes our paradigm, a perception of ourself and the world around us. It’s a framework for life and the lens through which we view opportunities and our ability to overcome any challenge.
- Isaiah 26:3 *You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You (focused in character and action), because he trusts in You.*
- Colossians 3:1-2 *Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. Paul uses the same Greek word, phroneo in Romans*

8:5-6 and in Colossians 3:1-2 .

- Two mindsets — A fixed mindset dictates who we are and what we can do. It constantly focuses on weakness. A growth mindset on the other hand recognizes that we have the capacity to improve. It focuses on power. Romans tells us that we have the power to choose our mindset!

3. Recognize the SOURCE of our spiritual power. Verses 9-11

- All the men and women whom God successfully used in the Bible ultimately understood where their source of power lay: a trust in God no matter how difficult the challenge!
- Of the twelve spies sent by Moses to search out the Promised Land, only Caleb and Joshua trusted in God's promises and believed in His power. Numbers 20:6-9 *...their protection has departed from them, and the Lord is with us. Do not fear them.*
- Through Elisha's deep relationship with God, he overcame the enemy army with seemingly unlimited power. He was able to see God's invisible chariots of fire protecting him and his servant. 2 Kings 6:14-17 *...So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."*

4. Because Christ conquered Death and Hell AND sent His powerful Holy Spirit, we have everything we need to live a life of increasing victory. We may fall and stumble (and still be prone to sin) but because we are changed we cannot remain in a state of defeat!

- Romans 8:11 *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

Next week | Romans 8:18-30