

# ROMANS 8

## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of April 19, 2026

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Romans 8:14-17 *Sons of God*

<sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

- **Is everyone a child of God?** (14)
- **What does it mean to be “led by the Spirit of God”?** (14)
- The image of adoption tells us that no one is born into a true relationship with God. We “receive” (15) our sonship from God. This shows us there was a time in which we were lost, we were not naturally his children. **When did you first come to know God as your Father?**
- The image of adoption tells us that our relationship with God is initiated by Him. You don’t choose a father, and you don’t negotiate for a parent. Adoption is a legal act on the part of a father, and it is very costly for him. There is nothing the son can do to earn that status-- it is simply received (15). Do you think of yourself as a son of God? **What did your Heavenly Father use to begin to teach you about your precious relationship with Him?**
- What makes us sons of God is that we have the Spirit of God. All who are led *are* the sons of God (14). Everyone with the Spirit is adopted by the Father, and no one adopted by the Father does not have the Holy Spirit. **Share about a time you experienced the leading of the Spirit.**
- **Paul tells us that blessings come with being an adopted son of God. Which of the blessings below is particularly precious to you these days? Why?**

**Security:** “*not fear, but sonship*” (15). A servant obeys out of fear or under compulsion. But a son obeys out of love and joy in their Father.

**Authority:** “*not a slave...but as sons*” (15). Slaves have no authority. But children have authority in the house under their parents. The children of God are given authority over sin and the devil. Sons move about in the world knowing they belong to their Father.

**Intimacy:** “*we cry ‘Abba! Father!’*” (15). A term of the greatest intimacy, Abba was the word that was used by children talking to their fathers. The word “cry” expresses deep emotion and real knowledge of God who is very near.

**Assurance:** “*The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God*” (16). The Spirit comes alongside our spirit and gives us assurance that we truly are in God’s own-- an inner witness in the heart, a sense that, “Yes, He really loves me”.

**Inheritance:** “*if children, then heirs*” (17). This means we have an incredible future, our Father’s riches, and the honor of the family name. All Christians are heirs of a glorious God.

**Discipline:** “*provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him*” (17). Parents discipline a child to promote growth and maturity. Our Father has our good in view as He leads us through suffering and trial (cf. [Hebrews 12:5-13](#)).

- **Pray together in light of this week’s passage.**