



How to Know You Belong to God (Pt. 3) Romans 8:14-17

INTRODUCTION:

- I. You have a new identity — means you are making _____ with sin (vv. 13-14)
- II. You have a new intimacy — means you are _____ out “Abba! Father!” (vv. 15-16)
- III. You have a new inheritance — means you are willing to _____ with Christ (v. 17)

MESSAGE:

III. A New Inheritance

A. The Connection Between Children and Heirs (v. 17a)

1. Your _____ has changed (Gal. 4:6-7; Jn. 1:12)
2. Your security is rooted in a _____, not performance (Jms. 2:5; Rom. 8:16)
3. Your _____ is already written into the will (Eph. 1:13-14; Rom. 8:30)

B. The Connection Between Heirs of God and Fellow Heirs of Christ (v. 17b)

1. Christ is the heir of _____ (Heb. 1:2; Col. 1:16-18; Matt. 20:1-16; 25:14-30)
2. Our inheritance flows from _____ with Christ (Eph. 1:11; Col. 3:4; Rom. 6:5; Jn. 15:4-5; 2 Cor. 5:17)

3. We share the Son's _____ —not just His benefits (Jn. 17:22; 2 Tim. 2:12; Rom. 8:29-30; Phil. 3:21; 1 Jn. 3:2)

C. The Connection Between Suffering and Being Glorified (v. 17c)

1. The “with Hm” of suffering: Not _____ pain, but shared identification (Phil. 1:29; 1 Pet. 4:14; 2 Cor. 1:5; Jn. 15:18-20; Acts 5:41)
2. The “provided” that: Not a wage you earn, but a family _____ you bear (Lk. 9:23; 2 Tim. 3:12; 1 Th. 3:3-4; Matt. 5:10-12)
3. The “in order that”: Suffering has a God-designed _____, not a pointless existence (Rom. 8:18; Jms. 1:2-4; 1 Pet. 1:6-7; Heb. 12:10-1; 2 Cor. 4:17-18)
4. The connection to Christ's _____: Cross then the crown is not an exception—its the way (Lk. 24:26; Heb. 12:2; 1 Pet. 3:18; Jn. 16:33)
5. The _____ in it: Suffering does not cancel sonship — It confirms hope (Rom. 8:30; Rom. 5:3-5; 5:10)

TAKE HOME:

- Are you making _____ with sin, or making peace with it?
- When life squeezes you, do you instinctively _____ to God or away from Him?
- Do you interpret suffering through fear... or through faith in the inheritance still _____?

Application Questions

James 1:22 says, *"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."* These questions are designed to help you apply today's message in your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at **(661) 259-2913**.

1. **Spiritual Warfare:** True children of God don't make peace with sin but fight against it daily. Are you actively making war with sin in your life, or have you become comfortable with certain patterns?
(Rom. 8:13–14; Col. 3:5)
2. **Intimacy with God:** The Spirit leads us to cry out, "Abba! Father!" Do you instinctively turn to God as your Father in moments of need, or do you find yourself running elsewhere for comfort? (Rom. 8:15–16; Gal. 4:6)
3. **Assurance of Belonging:** Your security as an heir is rooted in relationship, not performance. Are you living as if your place in God's family depends on your success or failure, or do you rest in His adoption?
(Eph. 1:13–14; Jn. 1:12)
4. **Perspective on Suffering:** Suffering is not a sign of abandonment but a mark of walking Christ's road. When you face hardship, do you interpret it as God's rejection or as evidence that you belong to Him?
(Rom. 8:17; 1 Pet. 4:13)
5. **Hope in Future Glory:** The inheritance promised to God's children is unshakeable and glorious. Is your hope anchored in this future, or are you more focused on temporary comfort? (Rom. 8:18; 2 Cor. 4:17–18)
6. **Union with Christ:** All the blessings of God's inheritance flow from being united with Christ. Are you finding your identity and hope in your connection to Jesus or in your own achievements?
(Eph. 1:11; Jn. 15:4–5)
7. **Endurance in Trials:** God uses suffering to shape, mature, and prepare us for glory. How is God using your current trials to deepen your faith and dependence on Him? (Jas. 1:2–4; Heb. 12:10–11)
8. **Living as an Heir:** Heirs live with confidence, not fear, because their future is secure. Are you living each day with the boldness and joy of a beloved child and heir, or are you paralyzed by doubt and insecurity?
(Rom. 8:16; 2 Tim. 1:7)

"A baby cannot sign checks, but the child of God by faith can draw on his spiritual wealth because he is an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ."

- Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*