

***The Faith Advantage Part 3: Acceptance***  
***Romans 8:14-17***

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**Getting Started**

- ❖ Randy Pope opened up with a great illustration of acceptance from his elementary school years. Growing up what was your sense of acceptance? Were there special circumstances that aided or hindered your sense of acceptance?
- ❖ Briefly summarize what the average person thinks of when he or she hears the phrase “Holy Spirit.”
- ❖ **Opening Prayer Time:** We had the pleasure of singing a song and being led in worship by one of our young adults who has grown up in our church. Let’s open with prayer asking God to work through all the volunteers and staff who work with our young children and teenagers as they pour into the next generation of Kingdom leaders.

**Digging Deeper**

- ❖ **Reread and discuss Romans 8:14-17 in the ESV.**
  - “Sonship/Daughtership” (8:14) is seen in our adoption, inheritance, and suffering.
    - How does seeing yourself as adopted by God affect how you respond to: rejection, or acceptance; failure, or success; feeling out of control, or feeling in control?
    - How does recognizing your inheritance in God change your view of: money and wealth? relationships? the many or few opportunities you have in life?
  - What do verses 14-17 tell us about what the Holy Spirit does for us and through us?
  - What do these verses tell us about the closeness of our relationship to God as a consequence of the Spirit’s work?
  - What does it mean to be “led by the Spirit”? Randy gave us many synonyms from other passages. How does the Spirit lead us? And how can we be sure that the guidance we sense is from the Spirit and not from our own desires? Think about the times you have sensed the Spirit’s guiding hand. Were you right? Was the Spirit doing the directing? How did you know? Discuss what it means to be led by the Spirit.
  - As sons of God, we are “heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ” (v. 17). Although Paul will tell us later more about what we will inherit, in verse 17 he gives us a hint. What is that hint?
  - Although our inheritance appears to be conditional on whether we suffer with Christ, that’s not what the word *if* means in verse 17. The idea may be better expressed as “*Since* we suffer” rather than “*if*.”
    - Does the idea of our suffering with Jesus fit with what Scripture says elsewhere about what His disciples will experience?
    - Here are a few passages you might want to consult: Matthew 5:11, 12; Mark 8:34-38; John 15:18-21; 16:33; Acts 14:21, 22; 1 Peter 3:13-17; 4:12-19.

(Over)

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❖ **Applying this sermon to Our Lives**

- Earlier you were asked a question about being “led by the Spirit”. Many times we focus on “specific guidance for a specific situation”, but the biblical idea is more of a “whole life of dependence on the Spirit”.
  - How does this definition affect the way you seek to be led by the Spirit?
  - What needs to change in your life so that your whole life is depending on the Spirit?

**Think About It!**

The Spirit-filled life does not come through mystical or ecstatic experiences but from studying and submitting oneself to Scripture. As a believer faithfully and submissively saturates his mind and heart with God’s truth, his Spirit-controlled behavior will follow as surely as night follows day. When we are filled with God’s truth and led by His Spirit, even our involuntary reactions— those that happen when we don’t have time to consciously decide what to do or say—will be godly. (John MacArthur)

**Praying Together**

Spend time this week sharing deep needs and praying for one another.

(Note: In this year’s study of Romans, our study questions are being inspired by or derived from books, commentaries and bible studies authored by: Pastors Matt Smith, Max Lucado, John MacArthur, R.C. Sproul, Jack Hayford and Tim Keller.)

## WORSHIP RESOURCE

January 26, 2020 | Third Sunday after Epiphany

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### WORSHIP SONGS

#### GREAT THINGS

**Words by Phil Wickham and Jonas Myrin, 2018**

Come, let us worship our King. Come, let us bow at His feet.  
He has done great things. See what our Savior has done.  
See how His love overcomes. He has done great things.  
He has done great things.

*O Hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave. You free every captive  
and break every chain. O God, You have done great things.  
We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive. O Jesus, our Savior,  
Your name lifted high. O God, You have done great things.*

You've been faithful through every storm.  
You'll be faithful forevermore. You have done great things.  
And I know You will do it again for Your promise is Yes and Amen.  
You will do great things. God, You do great things.

Hallelujah, God above it all! Hallelujah, God unshakable!  
Hallelujah, You have done great things.

#### ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME

**Words and Music by Paxson Jeancake, 2017**

Father of unfailing love, Your grace and goodness are enough.  
Each day I wake to mercies, new. My heart is filled with gratitude.  
No matter heights or valleys, low, I know that I can say

*Let all that is within me bless Your name, every broken part, every  
breath I take. All that is within, all I've been through;  
Shepherd of my soul, I can sing to You with all that is within me.*

Every tear, every fear, I don't face them on my own. Every load, every  
road of this journey I've been on. All the joy, all the pain, all that  
comes my way I bring to You, I bring to You.

#### BUILD MY LIFE

**Words and Music by Brett Younger, Karl Martin, Kirby Kaple,  
Matt Redman, and Pat Barrett, 2016**

Worthy of every song we could ever sing.  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring.  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe,  
we live for You.

Jesus the name above every other name.  
Jesus the only one who could ever save.  
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe,  
we live for You.

*Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You.  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are and fill me  
with Your heart and lead me in Your love to those around me.*

I will build my life upon Your love; it is a firm foundation.  
I will put my trust in You alone, and I will not be shaken.

## SPIRIT OF LIFE

**Words and Music by Lydia Sooter, 2019**

Your body was broken; to give me life. The Spirit has spoken;  
Jesus is mine. The Father in heaven; the Son at His side.  
Dwelling within me; the Spirit of life.

You are calling me to Your arms. You are calling me to Your heart.

*Spirit, You are my hope when I am lost; I'm never alone.  
Spirit, You are my strength when I am weak; You're faithful again.*

I wandered in darkness; I hid from the light. But God in His mercy  
called me His child. Jesus is for me; gracious and kind.  
Dwelling within me; the Spirit of life.

Spirit of glory, Spirit of Christ. Jesus is for me, now I am alive.  
Spirit of freedom, Spirit of God. Hope of the ages, the hope of my  
heart. Spirit of power, Spirit of truth. Spirit of God, I surrender to You.

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## DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 67; Genesis 13:2-18; Gal. 2:1-10; Mark 7:31-37  
MONDAY | Ps. 57; Genesis 14:1-24; Heb. 8:1-13; John 4:43-54  
TUESDAY | Ps. 54; Genesis 15:1-21; Hebrews 9:1-14; John 5:1-18  
WEDNESDAY | Ps. 65; Genesis 16:1-14; Heb. 9:15-28; John 5:19-29  
THURSDAY | Ps. 143; Gen. 16:15-17:14; Heb. 10:1-10; John 5:30-47  
FRIDAY | Ps. 88; Genesis 17:15-27; Heb. 10:11-25; John 6:1-15  
SATURDAY | Ps. 63; Genesis 18:1-16; Heb. 10:26-39; John 6:16-27

## PRAYER OF RENEWAL

God, our light and our salvation,  
Jesus announced the nearness of your kingdom  
and called his disciples to be fishers of women and men.  
Give us courage to follow in the way of Jesus,  
that our lives may bear witness to the good news  
of the kingdom at hand and our vocation serve  
to draw people to your salvation; through your Son,  
Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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