

LIFEGROUP NOTES: ROMANS 8:14-17

As ever, please use (or discard!) these ideas as is most suitable for your group. Don't feel you have to use everything.

Preparing for God's Word

1. How important is assurance of salvation? How does a lack of assurance affect our walk with God?

Read Romans 8:14-17

2. See v.14: What does it mean to be "led by the Spirit" (compare v.13)? How does being led by the Spirit in this way assure us that we really are God's children?
3. What would a relationship with God be like if it could be compared to "slaves living in fear" (v.15)? Is there anything of this character in your own relationship with God? What causes this?
4. By contrast with slavish fear, what kind of relationship with God does the Holy Spirit bring us into (v.15)? What difference does it make to us that we know God as a Father and not simply as a Master? How might the motivations and actions of a son or daughter be different from those of a slave?
5. What are the privileges of being an adopted child of God (vv.15-17)? If we can cry out, "Abba, Father," how does this truth comfort you? Strengthen you? Bring you joy? Change how you pray? How can you use these truths to help other Christians?
6. What difference will knowing yourself to be a child of God make to your thoughts, priorities or behaviour this week?

Responding in Prayer

- List the different words used in vv.14-17 to describe our relationship to God. Remember that if the Spirit of God lives in you, then all these words apply to you! In the light of this, bring your praises and prayers to your Heavenly Father.

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