

LifeGroup Study SheetJune 18th and 21st, 2026: Romans 8:14-17

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

If God sent you a formal adoption certificate in the mail, showing you have legally been adopted into His family, where would you hang it? Would you have it on display?

Digging In

Question 1: Read Romans 8:14-15. "The Gift of Adoption." Adoption involves being chosen, separated from one family, and placed into a new one, all at God's initiative. When you reflect on what it means that God specifically chose you to be His child, how does that change the way you see yourself on an ordinary day? What former ways of your unredeemed life, your old patterns of thinking, shame, or identity, do you still carry even after adoption into God's family? If you truly believed you were chosen by God before the foundation of the world, what would you stop worrying about?

Read Galatians 4:4-7, John 1:12-13, 2 Corinthians 6:18

Question 2: Read Romans 8:14-15. "The Gift of Assurance." God's children are led by the Spirit and live fear-free lives, not because life is painless, but because their identity is secure. What is one fear you are currently carrying that the assurance of your sonship should be displacing?

What does 'being led by the Spirit' look like practically in your week, not just in crisis, but in the ordinary? What is the difference between healthy reverence for God and the 'spirit of slavery'? How do you tell them apart in your own heart?

Question 3: Read Romans 8:15. "The Gift of Access." In Mark 14:36, Jesus, in the darkest hour of Gethsemane, cried out 'Abba, Father, all things are possible for you.' We have been given the same Spirit and **the same access**. Is there something you are facing right now that you have been treating as too small, too shameful, or too hard to bring to the Father? What would it look like to cry 'Abba' in those moments of pain, strain or confusion?

Read Ephesians 2:18, and 3:12

What does your prayer life reveal about how much access you believe you have to God? Jesus prayed honestly in Gethsemane, he said, 'remove this cup' and then surrendered. Is there a prayer you've been afraid to pray because you're not sure you'll like the answer?

Question 4: Read Romans 8:16-17. "The Gift of Abundance." Paul says that if we are children, we are heirs, co-heirs with Christ Himself. But he immediately connects inheritance to sharing in His sufferings! Not a typical connection a lot of people want to make! How does the promise of an eternal inheritance with Christ change the way you relate to current hardship, sacrifice, or unmet longing in your life right now?

Paul says our inheritance includes suffering with Christ. Has a season of suffering ever deepened your sense of belonging to God? How?

Read Ephesians 1:13-14

How does knowing the Holy Spirit is the 'guarantee' or down payment of your inheritance change the way you view your daily experience of the Spirit?

Application

Earthly fathers should reflect their Heavenly Father

- **Ephesians 5:1** – Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

God's children should give thanks to their Father

- **Ephesians 5:20** – always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?