



**FROM
SLAVERY**

TO SONSHIP

Romans 8:1-17

Married to the Law

Focus: What I am supposed to do.

Mechanism: Preoccupied with rules, standards, and appearances.

Result: Failure produces shame; success produces pride.

Am I doing enough?

Belonging to Christ

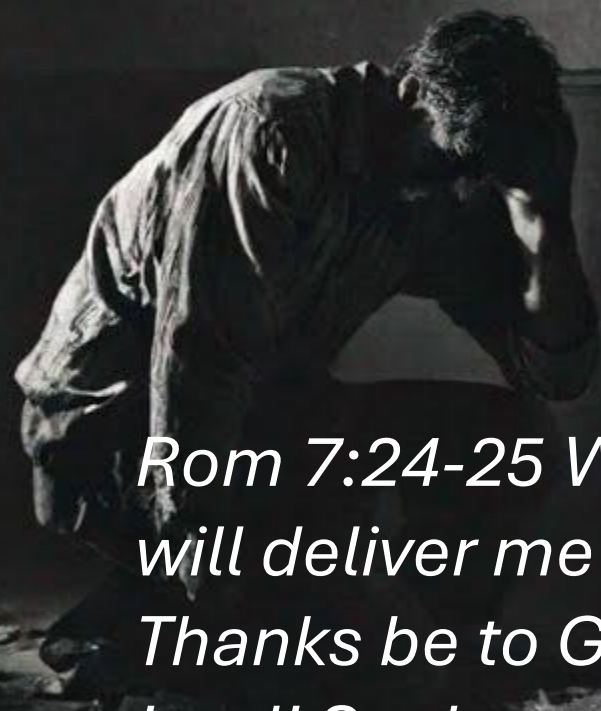
Focus: Wanting to please Him out of love, not meet a requirement.

Mechanism: Depending upon Him rather than myself.

Result: Failure drives me back to Him; His life produces fruit through me.

How can Christ's life be expressed through me?

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WRETCHED
MAN THAT
I AM



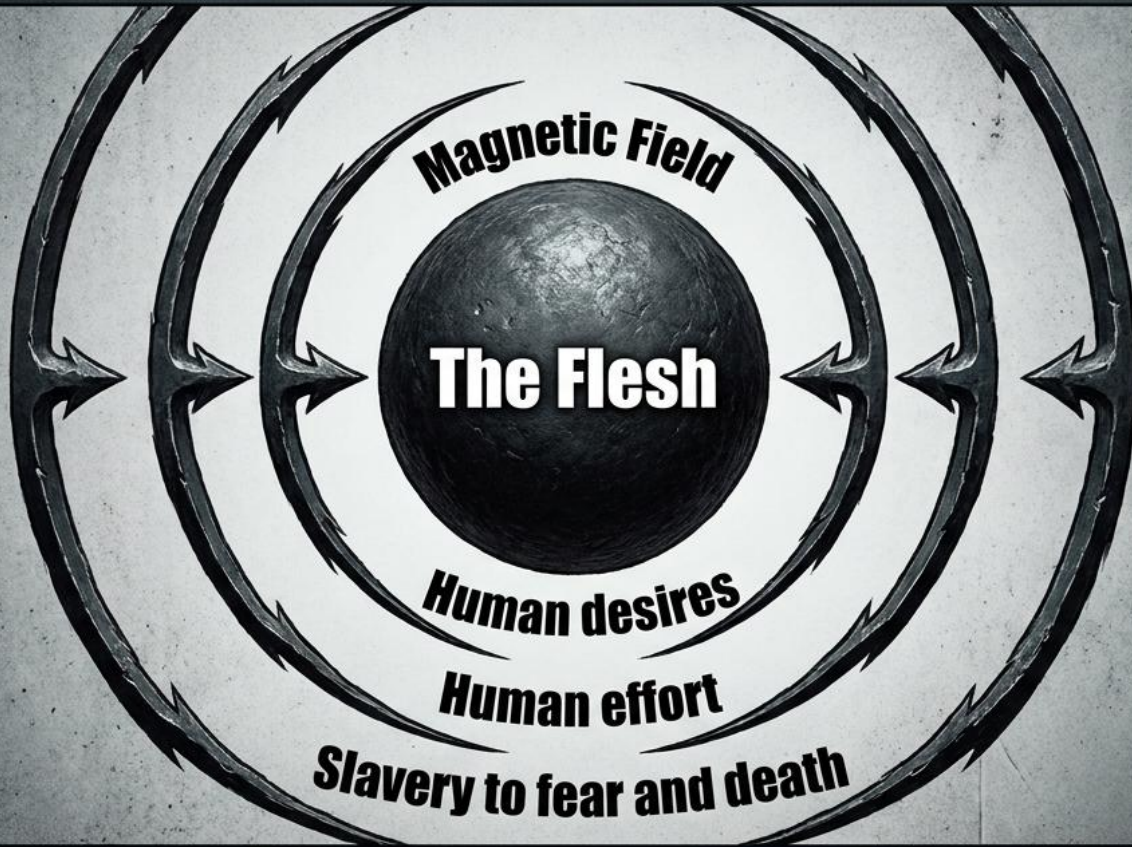
Rom 7:24-25 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those **who are in Christ Jesus**. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has **set you free in Christ Jesus** from the law of sin and death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but **to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.**

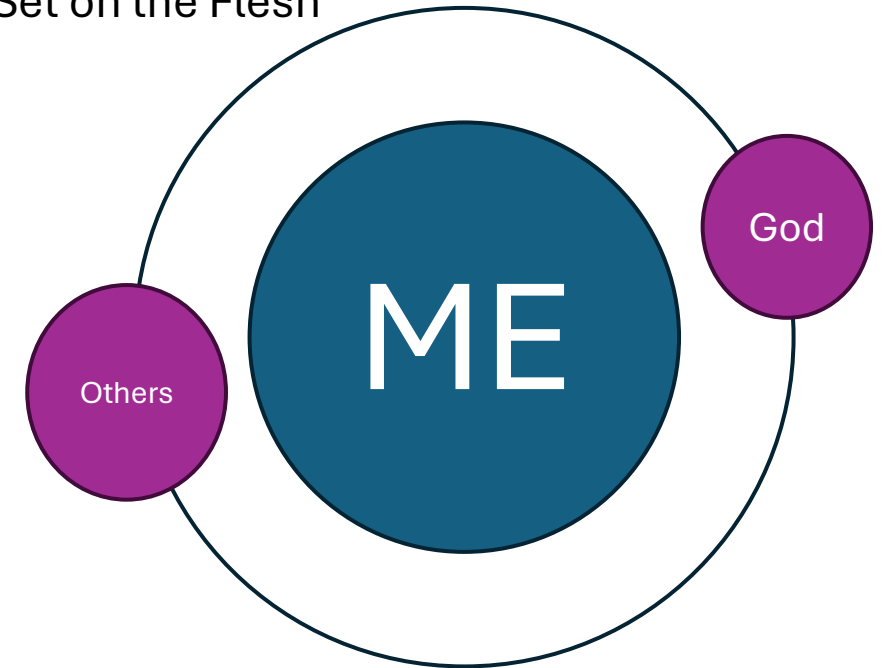
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Rom 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh **set their minds on the things of the flesh** ... 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death... 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

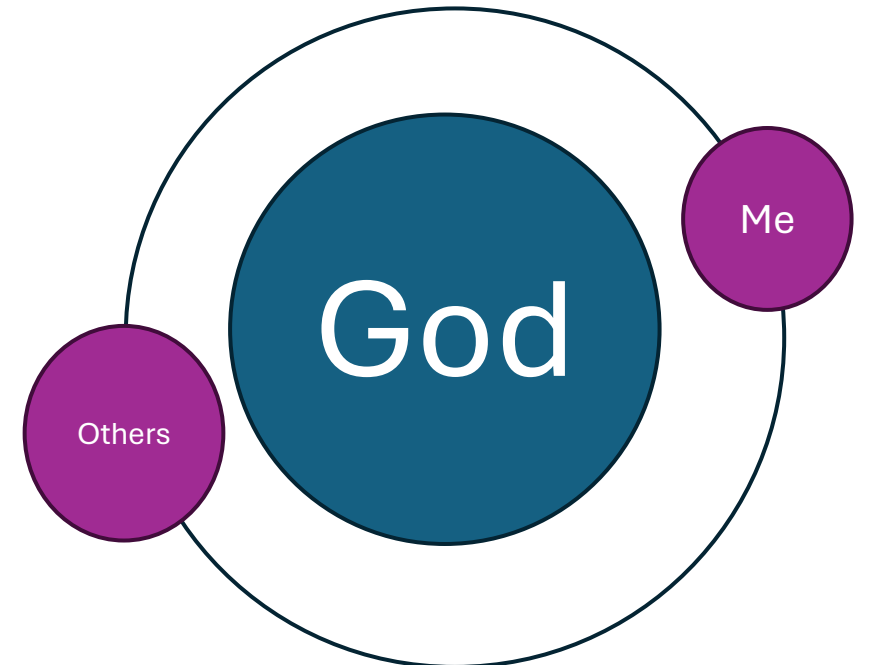
The Gravitational Pull of the Flesh



The MIND Set on the Flesh



The MIND Set on the SPIRIT



Life in the Flesh Example: Esau

The Scenario: Arriving exhausted from the wilderness, facing a temporary physical deficit (hunger).



Point 1: High Immediate Gratification.

Demands the red stew immediately to satisfy the flesh.
("Look, I'm dying of starvation!")



Point 2: Low Trust.

Cannot see beyond present circumstances;
discounts future spiritual realities.



Point 3: The Fatal Trade.

Sells the permanent birthright for
a temporary meal.

Conclusion: Contempt for the inheritance. A will
chained to present desires at all costs. (Gen 25:29-34)

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those **who are in Christ Jesus.**

Rom 8:9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 **But if Christ is in you**, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 **If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you**, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Are you stable or unstable?

*Jam 1:6 But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. 7 Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 **Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.***

I am the sum of what I do.

Depending only on myself
(living like an atheist).

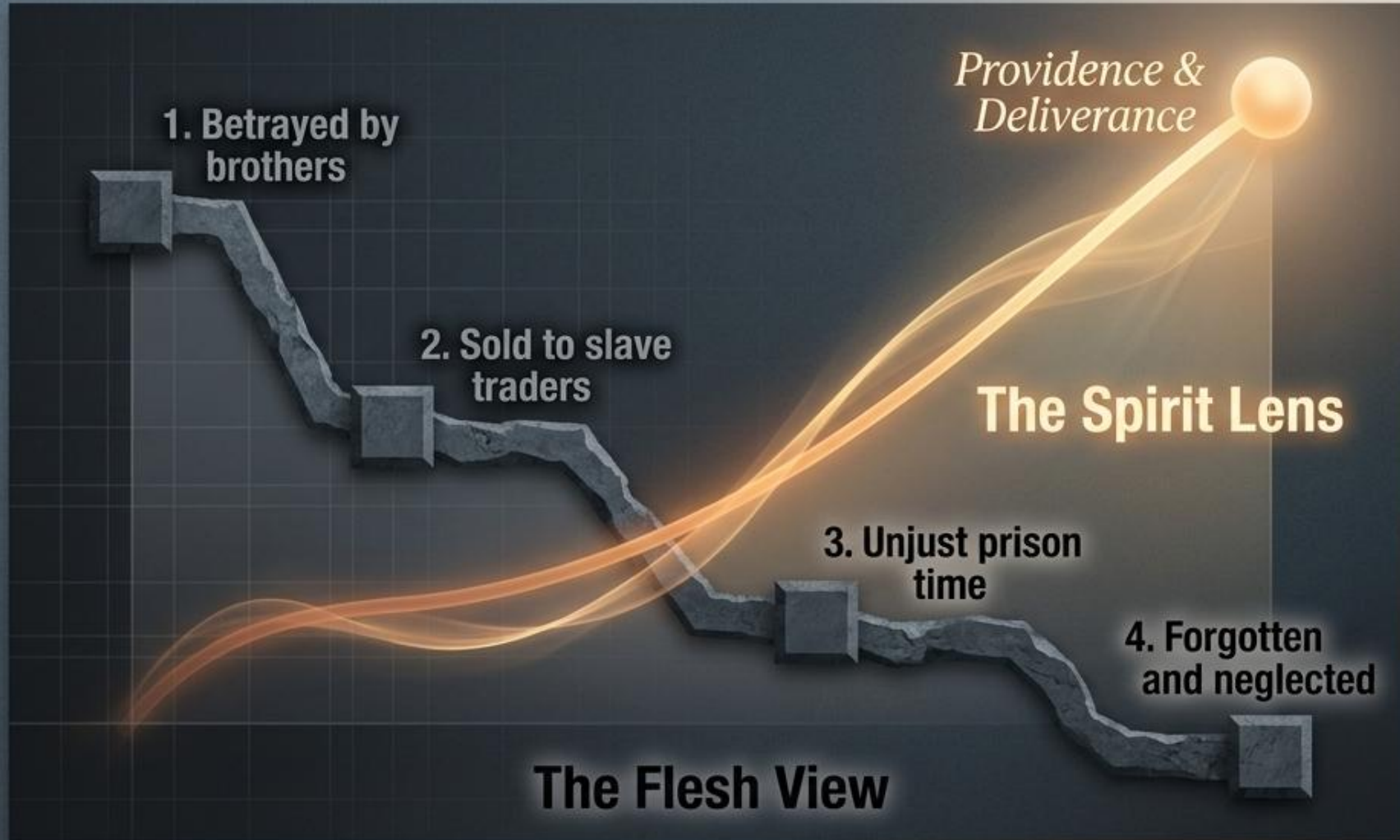
Making decisions based
on fear.

Fear of man and fear of
consequences.

Doubting the love of God.

Rom 8:12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are **sons of God**. 15 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!” 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, 17 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.

Life in the Spirit Example: Joseph



“So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God... to save your lives by a great deliverance.”

(Gen 45:7-8)

Key Takeaways

- Joseph chose to see God's hand over the evil of men.
- He chose forgiveness and grace over vengeance.
- He believed what God said about his future.

How do we walk as children of God?

Put to Death (Rom 8:13)

Actively battling sin. By the power of the Spirit, putting to death the deeds of the body.

1 John 3:1

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Receive (John 1:12)

Accepting the right to become children of God. Basking in the great love the Father has lavished on us.

Transform (Rom 12:2)

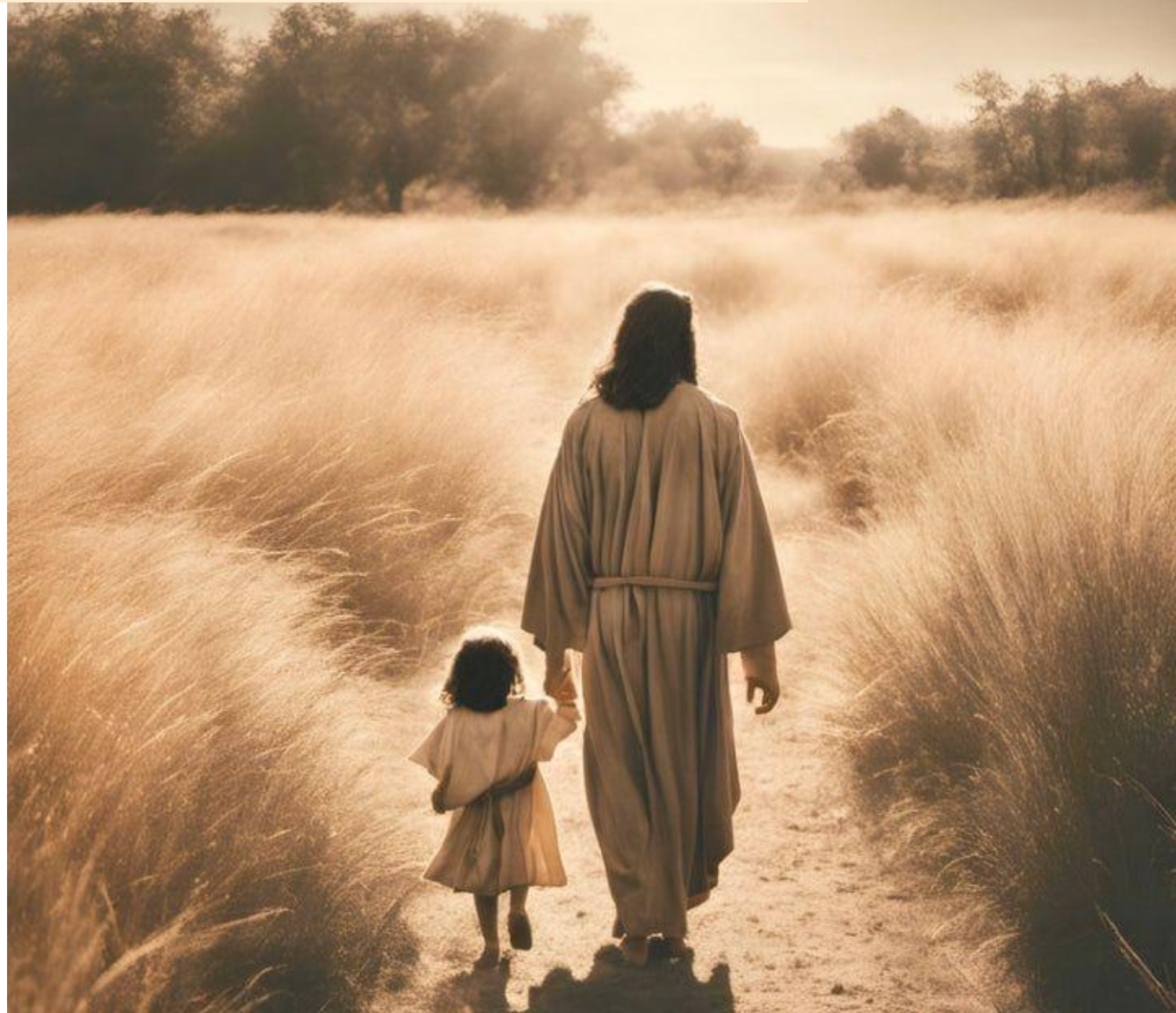
Conforming to the image of Jesus. Letting God transform the mind through the Word rather than copying the customs of this world.

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What does life as a child of God look like?

- We understand there is something much bigger than us in life
- We have the Spirit of the Living God living in us and empowering us
- We battle sin by letting God's Spirit and the renewing of the Word
- We make decisions by following after the God who loves us



**“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!”
(Romans 8:15)**

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. Walk in the freedom of the Heir.

Are you living in the Spirit, Or in the flesh?

1. Identity

I am the sum of what I do.

I am an image-bearer of my creator.

2. Reliance

Depending only on myself
(living like an atheist).

Empowered and guided by the living God.

3. Motivation

Making decisions based
on fear.

Following after the God who loves us.

Authority

Fear of man and fear of
consequences.

Fearing God alone with hearts full of love.

Security

Doubting the love of God.

Knowing nothing can separate us from
His love.