
I Can Relate

Romans 8:1-17 NLT 8 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. 2 And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. 3 The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. 4 He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit. 5 Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. 6 So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. 7 For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. 8 That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. 9 But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.) 10 And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God. 11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. 12 Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. 13 For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." 16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. 17 And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.

1. Jesus' Entire Earthly Ministry Was Conducted In The Power Of The Holy Spirit!

- **Conception and Birth:** Jesus' conception was through the power of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18-21).
- **Baptism:** At his baptism, the Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove, signifying the empowerment for his ministry (Matthew 3:16).
- **Temptations:** After his baptism, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil, but remained strong through the Spirit's power (Luke 4:1).
- **Ministry:** Jesus returned to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit," proclaiming his mission to preach the good news and setting the oppressed free (Luke 4:14, 18).
- **Miracles:** Jesus performed miracles, cast out demons, and preached the gospel through the power of the Holy Spirit, which was the source of his divine ability (Matthew 12:28).
- **Resurrection:** Christ's death and resurrection were also attributed to the Holy Spirit, who raised him from the dead (Romans 8:11).
- **Ascension:** Even after his resurrection, Jesus gave instructions to his apostles through the guidance of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:2).
- Why is this important??? Because the same Holy Spirit resides in us as believers!
- See Jesus has already experienced and overcome what we are facing now to show us how to walk in His shoes!
- God is trying to teach us in Romans 8 the power of living in the Holy Spirit!

2. Jesus Purchased Our Freedom And Provides Access To An Inheritance Prepared By Our Heavenly Father!

- **Galatians 4:1-7** NLT “Think of it this way. If a father dies and leaves an inheritance for his young children, those children are not much better off than slaves until they grow up, even though they actually own everything their father had. They have to obey their guardians until they reach whatever age their father set. And that’s the way it was with us before Christ came. We were like children; we were slaves to the basic spiritual principles of this world. But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.”
 - This inheritance includes eternal life in God’s kingdom, adoption as His children, the indwelling Holy Spirit, glorified bodies, and the unshakable hope of being with Christ forever!

3. When The Lies Of The Enemy Try To Rob Us Of Our Inheritance We Must Always Come Back To The Cross!

- On the cross was that decisive moment when Jesus took on the sins of the world.
- **John 1:29 (NKJV):** “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”
- **2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)**— “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”
- **1 Peter 2:24 (NKJV)**— “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.”
- On the cross, Jesus wasn’t just dying physically—He was carrying the guilt, shame, and punishment of human sin, satisfying God’s justice once for all.
- **John 19:30 (NKJV)**— “It is finished.”
- Here, Jesus declared the work of bearing sin and paying its penalty fully accomplished.
- While the taking of sin happened on the cross, His resurrection was God’s stamp of approval that the sacrifice was accepted, the debt paid, and sin defeated.