

# I Can Be 100% Sure I'm On God's Good Side

*FCC Life Group Discussion Notes*

*Based on the "What God Wants Me to Know" Series of Matthew Rogers*

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## Summary of the Text

In Romans 8:1-17, Paul delivers a powerful message of assurance for believers, emphasizing that those in Christ Jesus face no condemnation. This passage transitions from the struggle with sin described in Romans 7 to the victory and freedom found in Romans 8. The presence of the Holy Spirit in believers serves as constant proof of God's approval, marking them as His own, empowering a new way of life, breaking the power of sin, and confirming their identity as God's adopted children. The main thrust is that believers can have unshakable confidence in their salvation because of the Spirit's work within them.

## Ice Breaker for Discussion

**Question:** If you could have one question answered about your future to give you complete confidence, what would it be and why? Share with the group to get to know each other better.

## Point 1: I Have Been Marked as God's Own

**(Someone), please read Romans 8:1, 9-10 aloud for the group.**

**Summary:** Romans 8:1 declares there is "no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus," signifying that believers are freed from the penalty of sin. Verses 9-10 emphasize that the Holy Spirit dwells in believers, marking them as belonging to Christ. This presence is a transformative gift, signifying that believers are not just acquitted but released from sin's prison, with the Spirit empowering a new life of righteousness.

### Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to you personally to know there is "no condemnation" in Christ? How does this truth impact your daily life?
2. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit's guidance or empowerment in your life as evidence that you are "marked as God's own"?

## Point 2: I Contain Something Within That Guarantees I Will Get Home

**(Someone), please read Romans 8:11 aloud for the group.**

**Summary:** This verse assures believers that the same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead lives in them, guaranteeing their ultimate resurrection and eternal life. The Holy Spirit's presence is a promise that believers will not fall short of God's eternal plan, providing confidence over fear, even in the face of death or uncertainty.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. How does knowing the Holy Spirit guarantees your eternal future affect the way you handle fear or uncertainty in your life?
2. What practical steps can you take to remind yourself of the Spirit's power within you when facing challenges?

## Point 3: I Have a New Way to Live—Not as a Slave, but as a Child

**(Someone), please read Romans 8:14-17 aloud for the group.**

**Summary:** Paul explains that believers are not slaves to fear but God's adopted children, led by the Spirit. This adoption means they are full heirs with Christ, with a new identity and inheritance. The term "Abba, Father" reflects an intimate, secure relationship with God. Though suffering may come, it pales in comparison to the glory awaiting God's children.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What does it mean to you to be called a "child of God" rather than a slave? How does this new identity shape your relationship with God?
2. How can you lean into the Spirit's leading in your daily decisions to live as a child of God rather than out of fear?

## Recap of the Lesson

Romans 8:1-17 is a victory speech for believers, assuring them they are on God's good side through the Holy Spirit's presence. They are marked as God's own, freed from condemnation, empowered by the Spirit for a new life, and adopted as God's children with a secure inheritance. This passage calls believers to live confidently, free from guilt and fear, knowing their salvation is certain.

## Challenge

**Challenge:** This week, take one intentional step to embrace your identity as God's child. Each day, when guilt, fear, or doubt creeps in, pause and declare Romans 8:1 aloud: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Reflect on how this truth changes your perspective and share your experience with the group next week.