

## The Spirit of Christmas Present

**Read:** Romans 8:1-17

**Main idea:** God sent His Son into this world to live the life that we could not live, and die the death that we deserved to die so that we could be reconciled to God and live according to the Spirit.

**Key Verses:** “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, 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.” **(8:3-4 ESV)**

### Key Principles:

- Christmas celebrates God sending His Son into the world, not only as a Savior but also as the fulfillment of the law we could not keep.
- Through Jesus' incarnation, we are offered reconciliation with God.
- The Holy Spirit empowers believers to live a new life, free from condemnation and the power of sin, enabling us to reflect the righteousness of Christ.
- The Spirit assures us of our identity as children of God, offering us intimacy with Him as “Abba, Father” and access to an eternal inheritance.
- The Spirit transforms our minds and desires, enabling us to live according to God’s purpose rather than the flesh and points us toward the hope of future glory.
- Just as Christ came into the world at the first Christmas, the Holy Spirit lives within believers, making the presence and power of God real to us every day.

### Discussion:

1. Romans 8:3-4 speaks of God sending His Son to accomplish what the law could not. How does this truth deepen your understanding of the meaning of Christmas?
2. Verse 1 declares that there is “no condemnation” for those in Christ. How does the Spirit’s work free us from the guilt and power of sin?
3. What does it mean to “walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit?” How does this apply to the way we celebrate and live out the Christmas season?
4. Verse 15 says the Spirit allows us to cry out, “Abba, Father.” How does this truth impact the way you view your relationship with God?
5. How does living with the Spirit’s presence now point us to the hope of eternal glory? How does Christmas remind us of this hope?
6. In what ways does the Holy Spirit make God’s presence known in your daily life? How can you show His presence in your interactions with others this season?

### Prayer:

- Thank God for sending His Son to redeem us and for His Spirit to live within us.
- Pray:
  - That we would remember our freedom from sin and adoption as His children.
  - That would embody the Spirit of Christmas with our generosity, love, and hope.
  - For those who have yet to experience the gift of salvation through Christ.

**The Spirit of Christmas Present**  
Romans 8:1-11

- I. The Spirit frees you from condemnation. 8:1-4**
  - 1. You are free from sin. 8:1-2
  - 2. You are free to obey. 8:3-4
  
- II. The Spirit frees you from obligation. 8:5-11**
  - 1. Your flesh leads to death. 8:5-8
  - 2. God's Spirit leads to life. 8:9-11
  
- III. The Spirit frees you from separation. 8:12-17**
  - 1. You were purchased by Christ. 8:12-13
  - 2. You were adopted by God. 8:14-17

NEXT WEEK:  
**The Spirit of Christmas Future**  
Romans 8:18-30