

“The Spirit's Work in Assurance” □ WCF 18.2h (TPH p930)

2024.06.02 Sabbath School Lesson

Hopewell ARPC, Culleoka, TN

1. Although hypocrites and other unregenerate men may vainly deceive themselves with false hopes and carnal presumptions of being in the favor of God, and estate of salvation^a (which hope of theirs shall perish^b): yet such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love Him in sincerity, endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before Him, may, in this life, be certainly assured that they are in the state of grace,^c and may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God, which hope shall never make them ashamed.^d

2. This certainty is not a bare conjectural and probable persuasion grounded upon a fallible hope;^e but an infallible assurance of faith founded upon the divine truth of the promises of salvation,^f the inward evidence of those graces unto which these promises are made,^g **the testimony of the Spirit of adoption witnessing with our spirits that we are the children of God,**^h which Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance, whereby we are sealed to the day of redemption.ⁱ

3. This infallible assurance doth not so belong to the essence of faith, but that a true believer may wait long, and conflict with many difficulties, before he be partaker of it:^k yet, being enabled by the Spirit to know the things which are freely given him of God, he may, without extraordinary revelation, in the right use of ordinary means, attain thereunto.^l And therefore it is the duty of everyone to give all diligence to make his calling and election sure,^m that thereby his heart may be enlarged in peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, in love and thankfulness to God, and in strength and cheerfulness in the duties of obedience, the proper fruits of this assurance;ⁿ so far is it from inclining men to looseness.^o

4. True believers may have the assurance of their salvation divers ways shaken, diminished, and intermitted; as, by negligence in preserving of it, by falling into some special sin which woundeth the conscience and grieveth the Spirit; by some sudden or vehement temptation, by God's withdrawing the light of His countenance, and suffering even such as fear Him to walk in darkness and to have no light:^p yet are they never utterly destitute of that seed of God, and life of faith, that love of Christ and the brethren, that sincerity of heart, and conscience of duty, out of which, by the operation of the Spirit, this assurance may, in due time, be revived;^q and by the which, in the meantime, they are supported from utter despair.^r

h. **Romans 8:12–17.** ¹² Therefore, brethren, 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. ¹⁴For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

- Life from the Spirit, v12
- Sanctification from the Spirit, v13
- Leading by the Spirit (which is sanctification, not “tuning-in”!), v14
- Adoption given, felt, and known by the Spirit. Not a new kind of bondage, but a brand new liberty—Spirit of adoption, Who gives an assurance by which we cry out, “Abba, Father” v15
- The Spirit’s testimony is joined to ours, v16
- Union with Christ known by the Spirit, v17
- Trinitarianism—doctrinally and experientially—by the Spirit

i. **Ephesians 1:13–14.** ¹³In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

- the Holy Spirit’s ongoing work of sealing; authentication which marks ownership and prevents tampering; v13
- the Holy Spirit as the “first installment” of our inheritance, v14a
- the Holy Spirit as the One Who ensures that God fully receives/obtains the possession that He purchased, v14b

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

- the Holy Spirit, as first installment of the beatific vision, is a Person Whom we should love and care not to grieve
- the Holy Spirit reminds us about Whose purchase we are, so that we may live as His until the day our redemption is completed

i. Eph. 1:13–14. Eph. 4:30. 2Cor. 1:21–22. ▪ k. 1 John 5:13. ▪ l. 1Cor. 2:12. 1John 4:13. Heb. 6:11–12. Eph. 3:17–18. ▪ m. 2Pet. 1:10. ▪ n. Rom. 5:1–2, 5. Rom. 14:17. Rom. 15:13. Eph. 1:3–4. Ps. 4:6–7. Ps. 119:32. ▪ o. 1John 2:1–2. Rom. 6:1–2. Titus 2:11–12, 14. 2Cor. 7:1. Rom. 8:1, 12. 1John 3:2–3. Ps. 130:4. 1John 1:6–7. ▪ p. Ps. 51:8, 12, 14. Eph. 4:30–31. Ps. 77:1–10. Ps. 31:22. Matt. 26:69–72. Luke 22:31–34. ▪ q. 1John 3:9. Luke 22:32. Ps. 51:8, 12. ▪ r. Mic. 7:7–9. Jer. 32:40. Isa. 54:7–14. 2Cor. 4:8–10.

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Well, we are Of course, but still in, How what we called several years ago? Hopewell one of And we are doing the Berean thing. I hope that if you do read The Westminster standards and right now in particular, the Westminster Convention that you do receive it. Gladly Uh, but We also ought to search the scriptures to see that these things are so And that's, uh, that's what we're doing in seducing because the Westminster standards are such a good summary of Bible teaching.

You get a survey, a pretty comprehensive survey. Of the Bible as a whole. But then it helps you. When you have theological questions and you want to come And, Uh, quickly answer them. You can hardly do better for. Uh, accuracy of Doctrine depth of application. And in such a concise, small organized package.

Uh, than the Westminster Confession of faith and the more that you have. Studied. Uh, scriptures to see that these things are. The more that your confidence is in, in God himself, and in his word itself, Not in the confession. So the confessionist wonderful tool. It's important for you. If you're a member at Hopewell, I think Almost all of you are.

Uh, that, you know, that the Doctrine and practice that we have committed to together is biblical Uh, so that you can follow it. Uh, with Christ Alone as the Lord of your conscience and No Assembly of men or mere men as Lord of your conscience. But it's It's also good for you to.

To have that.

To have that tool available to you. And then if you've studied through the scripture passages, And when you come to the tool, you look at the Uh, the scripture proofs and hopefully what you have learned in the context of those passages, the spirit will bring back to mind for you.

So we're currently on. Uh, the question of assurance or the doctrine of assurance? And this is not Assurance about Christ. Every Christian is sure about Jesus. Every Christian is sure. That Jesus has gone and came to save us. That none who trust in him. Can be lost that everyone who calls upon.

Upon him will be saved. I hope that all of you are sure. About Jesus. And that's one of the things for, especially for any of you children. If you have not come yet, uh, to the table. If you have not come to be admitted to the Lord's, supper One of the great things that we are looking for when we hear you speak, and when we interact with you, And they don't just mean.

Uh, when you sit down with the elders, But in all of our interaction with you is that you are sure about Jesus Not all Christians are sure that they themselves are in Jesus. You can be sure about Christ, but Uh, you can doubt yourself. And yet. As we have seen in the first article and a half or so, Chapter 18 of the confession.

Uh, being sure that you are in a state of grace, being sure that you are united to Christ, being sure that you are adopted by the father is something that is not only possible for the Christian. Uh, but something that we're instructed to pursue by the Bible, And something that God wants us to have and instructs us.

Uh, to pursue Uh, so for For any of us who struggle with that Assurance that we are in a state of grace, or Uh, for those future times when you may, because as we continue studying this, we'll see that even those who have had Assurance of Faith. At some point, they can have that Assurance shaken.

By various Providence and especially, By some sin. Uh, that that we commit the expressing of remaining fleshliness in us, depending upon the severity. Of it, or From God's kindness in giving us soft-heartedness about it. Sometimes, even the kindness of God, Uh can lead to the shaking of assurance, so that we are driven back.

To those means by which he gives us Assurance. And those means are also, the means by which he gives us Heaven itself as he grows Us in that Holiness without which none of us will see the Lord. And so this uh the subject of assurance through this topic of assurance is very important, very practical one for us.

Well, if you've grabbed one of today's sheets, Uh you'll see that the big bolded part is the second half of Article 2 which Article 2 is describing to us. What this Assurance is that it is a certainty. That is grounded upon an infallible Assurance of And it is founded upon and last week we considered Divine truth.

The promises of Salvation and the inward evidences of the grace. Uh, that God works in. As he has promised and to which he adds, of course, all the rest of his promises. Um, but this week We look especially at the spirit's work in assurance, that Assurance is an infallible Assurance of Faith, founded upon.

And now these last two things Or this one thing with further explanation, founded upon the testimony of the spirit of adoption. Witnessing with our Spirits. That we are the children of God. Which spirit is? The earnest. Um, unless you've uh, Bought a house or made an offer on a house and you might have put in earnest money with that.

This might not be language that you would be familiar with so probably none of you children. Um, make a deal with a brother or sister that you're going to pay them uh something and you give them a little little bit up front. To kind of reserve it and enter into.

Your final negotiations. But first installment, Is the idea? And I get that actually from From the language in Ephesians 1. Uh, which Lord helping us will come to soon. Which spirit is the earnest or the first installment? Of our inheritance. Whereby we are sealed. To the Of redemption. And so, as you can see this, Second, half of this article is all about, Uh, the work of the Holy Spirit, the role of the Holy Spirit and the believer's life.

This is one of the reasons that Uh, some of the Theological errors. About. Who the holy spirit is and, and how he operates in the church connected to Uh, mistaking. How he operated in the ministry of the Apostles, as authenticating their Ministry. Uh, with how he operates in the lives of Christians, as he authenticates to us, that we're Christians.

Uh, and there's been a Um, an error that has Arisen a few times in church history. Some of those of you who've studied you will know about the montanists in the early church and And then the anabaptists around the time of the Reformation, But really, That error. Of wanting ordinary Christian Life to be authenticated by the same thing that authenticated Apostolic Ministry.

That has rapidly spread and increased. Uh, and the churches in the last century and a half or so in our nation and sadly. Because our nation has so much International influence, uh, we

have we have much harm churches and other nations. Ask me sometime about Felix from Malawi and And I'll I'll give you a tale not of wool.

But of joy, there are many Tales of From sub-Saharan Africa. As a result of the error, but you can hear just in In phrasing, it Uh, well, that way. How ridiculous it is to try to authenticate ordinary Christianity, the way that the apostolic Ministry was authenticated because how would that work in the first century?

If ordinary Christianity, was authenticated in the same way. As the Apostolic Ministry, there would be an utter confusion because everyone would be authenticated as an apostle. Not just as a Christian. But praise God, the ministry of the spirit to us is great. Uh, and so that theological confusion is very harmful.

Because it, it obscures to us. It makes a fog descend upon our understanding of an interaction with the third person of the godhead, the trying God, the one In whose Fellowship by whose Fellowship. We are supposed to be living The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion, or the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Uh, and Uh, if our lives are not lived. In The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit. If we have taken how he operates, what his power does, and for those of you who Uh, either attended or listened to the sermon from the midweek meeting and we saw That phrase by the power of the Holy Spirit.

What was it? That happens in the believer's lives. By the power of the Holy Spirit. Well, in this coming, Wednesday's passage The power of the holy spirit is, is that by which the Apostle Performed signs and wonders that verified his Apostolic preaching Ministry. But in this past, Wednesday evening's passage, remember the power of the Holy spirit in the Roman Believers.

Is what makes them to abound in Hope. Why? Because the Holy Spirit, who is Filling up their faith is the one who by that Faith fills them with all joy and peace, and who has filled them with all and that's all for their Ministry, necessary, goodness and knowledge. So that by having the holy spirit of God, they have all that.

They need for their relationship with God and their Ministry within Christ, the church. That is not Apostolic Ministry. That's what the Apostle is coming to do, but they don't even need an apostle. He tells them, he says, I'm confident that you yourselves are able to do this. So it's vital for us.

It's vital for you. Dear brothers and sisters. That you grow into a knowledge and understanding. Of who the Holy Spirit is and what the Holy Spirit does, so that you can leave and live in fellowship with him. And you don't. You know, feel the need for the fireworks. For the for that, which men view as spectacular.

Because putting sin to death day by day is spectacular. Knowing the Living, God who created you as your Abba is spectacular. Knowing that you are united to Christ. God, the son. Now, in your sufferings are united and that's a joint experience is spectacular. Uh, so the work of the Holy spirit isn't to remove the suffering is to minister to you the the knowledge of the Union with Christ in that suffering and the certainty that you will inherit together with him and also be glorified together within Dave.

We're probably gonna hear about that this morning in a message, because Jesus asked the question, is it easier to look, uh, heal this fan or forgive him of his sins? Yeah, that's why we have provocatively named the message, Christ's greatest miracle. It's uh, I don't know if it's clickbait or not.

I mean, it's in the hundreds of millions of ways for his greatest miracle. His forgiveness of you is also each one of you. As is in that tie. For Christ's greatest Miracle. Um, but You can hear it. I'll give you this sermon in 10 seconds. Um, if you're a paralytic, your greatest need is forgiveness and Christ's greatest miracle in.

Your life, is not any other sort of healing his greatest miracle is forgiving. You Because in order to do so, he had not only to be God, but to become a man and suffer as a Divine person for your sins. Sorry, that might have been 17 seconds. Dave, Like, if you fucking this morning about the Holy Spirit, As I've been reading about the Reformation prior to the Reformation, and when we look at that, as a very, very dark time but they were still Christians, the Holy Spirit would still at work, maybe not in his traumatic ways as we see.

But you know, preserving the deep ends with women. Well, I Yes, we tend to look like man. Looks Not like God looks. Right. So God looks at everything with a view especially to his own glory. Which he is especially decided to display and magnify in his son and his son's glory is especially decided to magnify in Those whom he saves.

So, yes, in broadly dark times. When we look, if we if we look the way that God looks at history, We see that, you know, things like his work in the valdensians, his work among the lollards, his work among the hussites. And then, And those are just movements. But every individual particular believer, You know, within Uh, even a papist Church that I don't know.

Uh, I kind of because men, like to put hard dates on things, when did Rome become a synagogue of Satan I would say, Trent the Council of Trent because that was the point at which they pronounced a curse on anyone who believes in Salvation, by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, which by the way, has never been repealed So if you were a genuine believer, Rome pronounces an anathema upon you, Christ by his Spirit using his word.

Uh, is more powerful. Then the Roman Catholic. And I've met a bunch of papists, I'm not a bunch. I've met papers in my life. Um, who genuinely hoped and Christ alone, they hadn't been indoctrinated enough by their church but they had enough Bible to be indoctrinated by Christ. Um, And, Yeah, time would, uh, would forbid but Um, That's another one you can ask me about if you think about it the Ukrainian JW's who are not jws.

Um, Uh, they only thought they were anyway. Let's uh, let's get into the proof text. Um, Romans 8, I think they probably only gave Verse 15 and 16. By the way, one per household. Member household, these Westminster standards and their attendant documents. If you don't have one in your house yet, please Uh, take one.

Um, So, the reason I said that is if you have one of those open or another Um, copy of the confession, open with the proof text. You can see Which particular verses I gave, we usually go a little wider in context and in fact let me set it up a little more widely in context to help.

You see how very much connected. This is to your assurance. Uh, Romans 8 flows out of Paul's experience of his own remaining sin that he's expressed at the end of Romans 7. Yeah, how many of you kids? Want to honor and obey your parents. I hope it's all of you.

You don't have to show your hands. Yes, I see some who are giving looks that say, I want to want to honor and obey my parents but I don't want to honor them and obey them as much as I know I should and hope I will. Uh well, the next question was how how many of you with perfectly consistent?

Perfect consistency not only obey your mom and your dad but you love to do it. You love when you were doing something else so that they could tell you to do what they want instead of what you wanted because that's an opportunity to keep the fifth commandment by enjoying deciding that what you want to do now is what Mom just said, not what you were doing three seconds ago, Yeah, that is not just obedience, that's honoring.

Well. You say I never do that. I always do the opposite. That's exactly what the Apostle says, about all of righteousness in the closing section of Romans 7, And one of the things that the that the Holy Spirit does for us is he's carrying Paul along to write is in the context of the very sort of thing that can shake a person's Assurance.

This is one of the things that makes it hard for us, even when we're sure that Jesus saves. And we're sure that he saves entirely. He doesn't just forgive. He also makes holy but we're not. Stream.

It's still broadcasting. Are. Okay, we can stop it and restart it. All right. It is on again. Um, Yeah, when when we feel like all the good things we want to do, we never do. And all the evil things we hate doing, we keep doing. That is that can be a crisis of assurance for the believer.

Because I know that Jesus saves, and I know that Jesus sanctifies, but I don't feel like I'm getting Sanctified So, what does it actually look like to be in a state of grace? Well, in the opening verses of Romans 8, then it looks like a mighty battle. And we can't go through.

Um, we don't have the time we could. Uh, to go through the first 11 verses. But let's pick up in verse 12 in the in the middle. Of describing this Mighty battle, therefore Brethren. We are debtors We are under obligation, not to the flesh to live, according to the flesh.

Excuse me 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. Okay, so The spirit is the one who gives us life. The spirit is the one who is bringing us into into life.

And, uh, and how does he do so well in part, He leads us to put to death, the Deeds of the body. Okay, so This is. A very important issue for many people. What does it look like to be led by the spirit? Verse 14, for as many as are led by the spirit of God.

These are the sons of God. Well, what does it look to like to be led by the spirit? He's just described what being led by the spirit is in verse 13. It's not tuning in. A Divine frequency. That gives you a cheat code for all of your decisions. Much less.

Receiving Whispers from God about every decision you're supposed to make so that it's disobedient, if you don't do what feels whispered, God hasn't whispered, he's put it in writing. So that you can know clearly. The difficulty is if we're led by ourselves, we don't do what he put in writing.

So, to be led by the spirit, is to have the third person of the godhead. As your personal guide and instructor and director, To do. Whatever he put in writing you say well sometimes I just feel led to and then you name something that is loving obedient evangelizing. Whatever like.

Yes. God gave you an entire Bible leading you to do that. And his Spirit by whom he gave. The scriptures is also dwelling in you and helping you to make decisions in your life according to the Bible. And so, if you say, well, I was led by the spirit to go and tell that lady about Jesus.

Yes, you were. It wasn't new revelation. The Bible told you that you should probably tell that lady about Jesus. But the spirit pressed it on your heart because living from ourselves and that

which remains from uh, our flesh, we would not do right? An obedient things and often there are people who have not had clear teaching about the leading of the spirit who experienced the leading of the spirit and they incorrectly describe it.

In terms of how they have been taught. Okay. They are confused and deceived a little bit, but that doesn't mean that they're not Christians and that the spirit isn't actually helping them. Do things like put sin to death. Now, if we were thinking, and speaking more, like, Romans 8, 13 and 14, We would say.

The spirit led me to get a dumb phone. Why? Because I'm putting to death. Um, laziness in my callings dopamine Addiction. In my scrolling, you know, things that really are controverted by the law of God. Now you don't say like the spirit told me as if like there's some new revelation.

You know. The spirit is definitely leading. All of you men. Not to be in compromising situations with women. To have your fellowship and your companionship. With other men. Because there is a fellowship and companionship with a single woman for you, that is going to be your wife. And whatever it whatever sins there are.

That you are ought to be in battle with. But often we're in battle to excuse. Right. Or, or To coddle or just just to create the Or to to justify. Well, it's not really sinning to do this. So, uh, you know, the sin would be if I did that this Puts people who aren't as spiritually strong as I am.

Uh, at greater risk and difficulty but I can handle it. Uh, you know, whatever it is. That's that's a bunch of nonsense. The the spirit leads you to kill sin. If we live, according to the flesh, we will die. If we live, according to our desires, That are from our flesh, we will die.

If we live according but if by the spirit you put to death, the Deeds of the body you will live for as many as are led by the spirit. So in the context, what does being led by the spirit mean? It means Mortal Kombat. With your remaining sin. Where you are taking every Advantage for the killing of sin.

And every Advantage for the fostering of righteousness, And you don't Grumble against your mom or dad. If they help you erect. Boundaries until they see you making spiritual biblically informed, christ-loving sin, killing decisions for yourself. They say all right, we take the boundaries down, you're in in combat and we can see it.

You're being led by the spirit. A child being led by the spirit is not one who has decided that when everything seems like lollipops and sunshine. They must be in the will of God. Um, unless you hate lollipops or Sunshine, poor, poor people. Um, For as many as are led by the spirit of God.

Uh, sons of God. So being led by the spirit is sanctification. For you, did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear. But you receive the spirit of adoption. By whom we cry out Abba Father. So, what does it look like to be led by the spirit in killing sin?

You used to be in bondage to your sin. Now that you're fighting your sin. Are you just in a different kind of bondage? Have you gone from bondage to? Uh, to sin to bondage to fear of sin him. Bondage to fear of sinning, is the danger at the end of Romans 7.

But the way that the spirit operates in your life isn't by a new bondage to fear of sinning, it's by being liberated to know God as your Abba and therefore sin as your enemy. And defeating it as your mission. And victory as you're guaranteed outcome. So, The the Mortal Combat that you're engaged in is serious and it's deadly.

But if you're a Believer, it's not going to be deadly for you, sin is deadly. But the way that the Mortal Kombat between a Believer and his sin ends, is by being deadly for what, for you, or for your sin. Is deadly for your sin. Okay, so Uh, this adoption then is is not just freedom in those moments, when you're praying.

Okay, as the spirit. Helps you in your praying in in the next verse or two that we have here. Is this, you will have Liberty in prayer. Yes, it's the spirit, who helps you. Not just say Abba but know that Dad that that God is your adopted. Father, he has adopted you and given you Liberty to come to him.

Um, Yeah, we would say Daddy. Uh, Abba is Aramaic. He and he puts here Abba Potter, why? Because there are some Jewish background Believers in the Roman Church. If if you've been through Chapter. Of 13, 14 in into 15 on the at the midweek meetings, you know, that the Jewish background A great background thing is pretty serious in the Roman church right now.

So he uses the daddy word from both languages. The Alba for the Aramaic Potter for the Greek speakers Daddy for you Paul. If you've watched too much Little House on the Prairie recently which you know for a wonderful extended season in our life. I got to be called all by one and Papa by the other and one of them still uses Papa, which I love.

But that. Knowledge of God as the one who has adopted you is not does not. Just give you Liberty and prayer. It gives you Liberty and mortification. That's what's happening in the context. Dave. So, when you ask the questions, How many children? Want to obey your mother and father.

We all should be raised. Because that that term is much broader than The way, how you mean Heavenly father or do you mean other authorities, other authorities?

Yeah, I asked particularly for the little children because that's usually the biggest pressing spiritual issue in their lives. Uh, we could have gone love your brother or sister. And they would immediately think about whichever brother or sister they uh they have tension with if that's if that's the case, it doesn't have to be the case.

Brothers and sisters can be best friends. Um, Praise God. Um, we know that but that too like uh, Like Dave was saying has broader applications within Within God's household. Uh, so there's the spirit. Convinces us of our relationship with the father. The spirit himself Bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

Now, in order to understand what that is saying, you should know that Bears witness with is all one word. Uh, it is the verb for Bears witness with a prefix on it. Uh, that means together with and that prefix is going to appear three times. Uh, in verse 17, for things that we do together with Jesus, So in verse 16, it's describing something that we do together with the Holy.

Now, I don't know. Um, if you all have ever been in context where you picked teams, or Uh, probably not for most of you a Uh, context where there was a group project and you had to pick two or three classmates. Um, I'd always try to make sure that one of the kids and and my group was one of the super diligent girls.

Um, that's just Yeah, one of the demographics that we we had in the super diligent girls, always wanted to have me because I was not so diligent as they God, forgive me, that is a sin but I was bright So who, you know, whatever, other two kids got to be in our group?

They got to ride the coattails of the of the genius and the diligence and Fly straight to the a You fly straight. To effectiveness with God in prayer. Because the one who is your partner in the

group project is God, the Holy And he has not only trained you from your heart to call God, your daddy.

He is also bearing witness with you. Before God. That you are his child. And that he is your daddy. Suddenly, you don't need to like, Have. Ecstatic babblings in church. And claim that there are people who have gifts to heal God still heals. He's still God, he didn't stop being God.

But gifts, that authenticated Apostolic Ministry to work as authenticators for Apostolic Ministry. Necessarily do not belong to people who are not participating in or attending Apostolic Ministry. But when you hear about what the Holy Spirit actually does, In the believer's life. You suddenly lose all need or appetite. For the things that so many in an age with with much less, Uh, scriptural teaching and understanding And you might have experienced a bunch of these things and had that teaching and not even known to say.

This is the work of God. The Holy That I am so resolved to put this sin to death. That seems like a law within the members of my body that it's is always right there with me, the that my sinful nature is all right there with me. This increasing Pudding of a particular sin to death.

That's from the Holy This lib being liberated, not to be afraid that the sin is going to win. But to be sure. That. That Grace is going to win that. I am going to win. That's from the Holy Spirit, this Liberty to call God. My Abba my daddy And know that that's true.

That's from the Holy.

So, knowing our relationship to the Lord, Jesus verse 16. Uh, sorry to the father verse 15 and 16 knowing our relationship to the Lord, Jesus verse 17. So, the spirit ministers, to us, our Union with Christ and if children, then heirs Heirs of God and Here's the first one of those.

Together with verbs. Um, inheritors together with or together with inheritors. Christ with Christ. If indeed we together with suffer. That we may also be together with glorified. Okay, so they are joint actions. This is exactly what Jesus said, the Holy Spirit was going to do. In John 14, 15 16 that he's going to minister to Our relationship with the father, our relationship with the sun, it's gonna the spirit As the spirit of the sun is going to be.

Sent Galatians 4 describes. Uh, the father sending the spirit. Other passages Christ describes both the father giving the spirit and him giving the spirit you say, which is it, it's both because the spirit proceeds from the father and from the son, But very uniquely for us as Christians. The spirit of the Sun is our mediator.

A man. Pours, out the Holy Because he's a Divine person. Who's sitting on the throne of Glory. You know, the, we love the Incarnation of Christ, The Obedience of Christ, the sacrifice of Christ, the resurrection of Christ. But you must love the Ascension of Christ and the session which means sitting of Christ upon the throne.

In particular because he said if he didn't Ascend, and if he didn't Ascend to sit from where he pours out this, we would not receive the spirit. Because the way Christians receive the holy spirit is different. Than the way all other believers. Anyone who's ever been a believer even through the Old Testament.

The only way they ever came to believe in the Christ was promised. Was because the Holy Spirit made them alive and gave them. That has not changed. What has changed is that there is a God man on the throne of Heaven who is pouring out the Holy Spirit, as his spirit, in his office, in his role, as our mediator.

So the third person of the godhead is being poured out by the mediator into the hearts of Believers in whom he dwells. And he convinces us that God is our Abba and he convinces us. That we have this shared joint life with Christ. And that's how someone who Struggling against sin.

The way the end of Romans 7 is described May yet come to be assured that they are in a state of grace. Because the third person of the godhead, Is leading them in that struggle. By ministering to them. The relationship with the Triune God. In the fullness of the godhead father, Son and Holy.

Um, Stop. I think we'll we'll try to do just Next. Lord's Day. Let's break. Our Father in heaven. What blessed gifts you give to us? We have often. Known and thought of your son, our Lord Jesus as the Indescribable gift. And yet, we hear also from your word. That if we, who are evil know how to give good gifts to our children.

How much more do you know to give the Holy? To your children. And so we behold your love that that is what we are your children. And we behold your wisdom and your generosity with us. That you have given us your spirit. Help us to know him, more biblically help us to treasure his fellowship and his love.

Help us when we come next week to think about loving him. Uh, in our walk with you. Loving him as the seal that you have given us unto. Redemption. Uh, but help us in light of what we have heard today. To know his love and to identify his work in the lives of ordinary Believers.

The way you have taught us in your words, so that each of us Might be brought to identify his work in our own individual life. And might not have fear. But might be sure and confident and joyful. In your spirit. Which we ask in the name of your son.

Our Lord Jesus.