

Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. Romans 8:12-14 (NIV)

My Leading

Where do you think I will lead you? What do you think I will do with your life? How will your life change as you love, follow and serve me? How am I supposed to know the answers to those questions? You are asking me about the future. How am I to know what to expect? How can I have any idea what you have in store for me in my future? **You know much more than you think you know.** I do? **Yes, you do. Let me ask you a few more questions.** Go ahead, you have my full attention. **You do know that I will be leading you, don't you? You did say that you wanted to follow me, didn't you?** Yes, I want to follow you. Yes, I know that you will be leading me through life. **What will you leave behind as you start to follow me?** I will be leaving my old life behind. I will be leaving all my old sinful thoughts, patterns and practices. **Is it true then to say that I will be leading you away from your old life?** Yes, I'm sure that is true. **That's part of your future. There is no mystery or hiddenness about this part of your future, is there?** No, there is nothing mysterious about this direction that you will be leading me. **So, you do know something very important about your future with me?** Yes, I do. **That's good.** I agree. **If I will be leading you away from your old life, where will I be leading you?** I don't think I know. **You can't leave one thing without going to another, can you?** No, I cannot. I get it. You will be leading away from my old life to the new life that you have given me to live. **Yes, I will. Do you know why it is so important that I lead you away from your old life into your new life?** I'm not sure. **Do you think that you would be able to stop living your old life if I didn't help you to live the new life that I was giving to you?** No, I don't think so. **Why is that?** Well, I can't simply leave my old thoughts, patterns and practices behind without them being replaced by something else. If I had no real new life to live, I would wander back to living my old life. **You don't want that.** No, I don't. I want to live the new life you have for me to live. **Why is that?** I love you. I want to follow and serve you. You loved me and gave yourself fully and completely to me. You are my Savior and Lord. You are my God and Father. You made me to be your child. You adopted me into your family. **Yes, I did.** Now, I want to live my life fully and completely for you. I want to do what is pleasing in your sight. I want you to replace my old sinful life with the brand-new life that you have for me to live. **Is that your prayer?** Yes, it is. **I will hear and answer your prayer. Now you know where your life is headed, don't you?** Yes, I do. **That is very good.**

Lord, thank you that I have no obligation to live according to my old sinful nature. You have broken me free from my old sinful life. By your Spirit, you have led me away from all my old thoughts, patterns and practices. You have given me a brand-new life to live. Amen

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

NIV Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. 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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

NLT Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— 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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

NRSV Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

So then, brethren, we are debtors, but not to the flesh [we are not obligated to our carnal nature], to live [a life ruled by the standards set up by the dictates] of the flesh. For if you live according to [the dictates of] the flesh, you will surely die. But if through the power of the [Holy] Spirit you are [habitually] putting to death (making extinct, deadening) the [evil] deeds prompted by the body, you shall [really and genuinely] live forever. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

AMP Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

NASB Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

ESV Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors--not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 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. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

NKJV Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *God's Spirit Beckons*

So don't you see that we don't owe this old do-it-yourself life one red cent. There's nothing in it for us, nothing at all. The best thing to do is give it a decent burial and get on with your new life. God's Spirit beckons. There are things to do and places to go!

MSG Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

So, dear brothers, you have no obligations whatever to your old sinful nature to do what it begs you to do. For if you keep on following it you are lost and will perish, but if through the power of the Holy Spirit you crush it and its evil deeds, you shall live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

TLB Romans 8:12-14

Guidance *Led By The Spirit*

So, my brothers and sisters, we must not be ruled by our sinful selves or live the way our sinful selves want. If you use your lives to do the wrong things your sinful selves want, you will die spiritually. But if you use the Spirit's help to stop doing the wrong things you do with your body, you will have true life. The true children of God are those who let God's Spirit lead them.

NCV Romans 8:12-14

Led By The Spirit

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Guidance – Romans 8:12-14

In Context: *Read Romans 8*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, thank you that I have no obligation to live according to my old sinful nature. You have broken me free from my old sinful life. By your Spirit, you have led me away from all my old thoughts, patterns and practices. You have given me a brand-new life to live. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How did fleshly desires from the sinful nature once control your thoughts, words and actions?

How has the Holy Spirit enabled you to put to death your old sinful thoughts, words and deeds?

How has the Holy Spirit made you able to live a completely new life in Christ?

How does your old sinful life differ from the new life that you are now living in Christ?

What has the Holy Spirit used to change your heart, transform your mind and guide your life?

Where has the Holy Spirit led you to go as you followed Him?

What has the Holy Spirit given you to do as you have followed Him?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you away from your old life into the new life you have in Jesus Christ.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Holy Spirit will lead you away from your old life to live the new life you have been called to live.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Holy Spirit is leading you to live your new life in Christ.

Close With Prayer:

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you allow the Holy Spirit to lead you away from your old life into the new life you have in Jesus Christ.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Holy Spirit, lead me away from my old life into the new life I have in Jesus Christ.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Holy Spirit, how will you lead me today into the new life I have in Jesus Christ?
