

Renewing Our Vision for 2021
“My New Life in the Spirit”
Romans 8:12-17

Learning to Walk in the Spirit (Romans 8:1-11)

- I no longer need to feel condemned by God for my failures in doing what He commands. (Rom. 8:1; 7:18-24; Phil. 3:6-9)
- **My focus** in life is depending upon the Holy Spirit's influence in me to do what is honoring to God. (Rom. 8:2-4)
- **My most important priority** is focusing my thoughts consistently on the priorities of the Spirit revealed through Jesus rather than my desires. (Rom. 8:5)
- **Focusing my mind** on “My desires” (flesh) is focused upon self-gratification rather than others and God. (Rom. 8:6a, 7-8)
- **Focusing my mind** on “the Spirit” is focused upon others and God and results in true life and peace. (Romans 8:6b, 9-11)

My Life in the Spirit

1. Through the Spirit I am focused upon minimizing my self-focus in order to prioritize my Spirit-informed focus. (Romans 8:12-13)

Matthew 16:24-26 Denial of Self is a Priority of Jesus

There is a Process Involved in Self-Emptying

2. My commitment to Spirit-informed priorities is proof that I am a “child of God.” (Romans 8:14)

John 3:3-8 Rebirth is Jesus' Work in Me

***The Spirit Changed My Identity
so a Spirit-Informed Life is “Who I Am”***

3. I am liberated from relating to God as a micro-managing judge by “Spirit Rebirth” that makes me God's child. (Romans 8:15)

Adoption means the God of Creation is “My Dad”

4. The connection between God's Spirit and mine confirms God is my father and I am His heir with Jesus. (Romans 8:16-17)

My future, as God's child, is guaranteed

5. Ultimately, as children of God, we are willing to suffer in this life for things that have eternal value for God. (Romans 8:17b)

This life is about investing in God's work.

My “Immediate Priorities” Require Sacrifices

- Knowing Jesus more intimately.
- Loving and sharing Jesus with those who do not know Jesus.
- Serving the Family of God who are my brethren and the brethren of Jesus.