



Life in the Spirit produces intimacy with God.

I. Living Free (1-11)

- A. Set free. (1-4)
- B. The Dwelling (5-11)
 - 1. Dwelling on Him – our mind set. (5-8)
 - 2. Dwelling in us – the Spirit gives us life. (9-11)

II. Intimacy with God (12-17)

- A. Adopted (15)
- B. Abba Father (15)
- C. Heirs

Our identity is now fully linked to our Father, through Jesus, and certified by the Spirit.

Our life is so intimately related to Jesus that we follow the same path he took; through suffering to glory.

How does this apply to me?

INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

HOPE IN THE SPIRIT

PASSAGE OVERVIEW

Life can be hard, especially for those who are sold out to Jesus. Christians worldwide suffer unimaginable persecution for their faith. Others are excluded from societal life. Even here in America, boldly living for Christ is no longer readily admired. In some cases, when we stand for biblical truth we may be castigated, ridiculed, or even rejected.

So we must live with the glory that is before us as our motivating hope. No matter how severe, any suffering that we experience on earth cannot be compared with the wondrous glory that is before us.

While we hope in what is to come, the Spirit helps us in today's troubles. He intercedes for us. He prays for us when we are so undone we don't know how to pray for ourselves. He knows our hearts and He knows the mind of the Almighty.

Hope is certain and help is present because it is based not on us, but on the absolute unchangeable perfection of our God. What He has planned for His children is good. He uses everything for the ultimate good in our lives. He molds us into the image of Jesus, who is the perfect one. He relentlessly works His good in us until one day we will be without spot or blemish in glory.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

Romans 8:18-30

