

# 4X8 | SERMON STUDY | WEEK 2: NO OBLIGATION

May 5, 2019

*Dive deeper into this week's message and passages from the Bible. Here are some questions to help you guide your group discussion.*

**We can either be dominated by our sin nature or controlled by the Spirit. When we accept the freedom that Jesus offers, the Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead lives in us, and we have no obligation to do what our sinful nature urges us to do! This should make us indebted to him—not in debt to him. Therefore, we should want to “lean in,” allowing the Holy Spirit to work in and through us so that we can make an eternal difference in the lives of others!**

**Read Romans 8:5-11.** The worst version of you is the one dominated by sin and the best version of you is controlled by the Spirit.

- When do you notice the two versions of you?
- In what ways do you feel obligated or controlled by your sin?
- Can you see that being controlled or led by the Holy Spirit is the opposite of being controlled by sin? In what ways do you see the freedom in this?

**Read Romans 8:12.** There are two primary pitfalls we fall into: When we try to add anything to Jesus (Moralism: Belief + Right Behavior = Acceptance from God) or when we subtract anything from obedience (Relativism: Belief + Good Intentions = Fulfillment).

- Do you ever try to please God through what you perceive as being "good deeds," thinking he'll accept you more? If so, in what way?
- Do you ever ignore, neglect or rebel against the Spirit of God's intervention in your life? If so, in what way?

**Read Romans 8:13.** You don't have to earn anything for your salvation (Jesus has already paid your debt!), but that doesn't mean you don't have to exert some effort in order to grow.

- We don't have to earn our salvation—it's a free gift Jesus offers us!—but spiritual and emotional growth, working on weaknesses, marriage, parenting, finances, dealing with sin all takes hard work! Are you able to discern the difference between hard work to pay back a debt and hard work because you're indebted? How? Do you usually live your life like you're in debt or indebted?
- God wants to work in and through you, but it requires you to lean in to the Holy Spirit's work in your life. What are some areas of your life where you need to lean in?
- The purpose of your life is to make an eternal difference in the lives of others. What would it look like for you to fully lean in to what God wants to do in you to help you fully realize your purpose?

## REFLECT

What is God saying to you through his word? How and when will you respond?

## DAILY BIBLE READING

Need a review of what we're reading in Daily Bible Reading? Here's a glance at how we're being challenged this week (subscribe at [tpcc.org/dailybiblereading!](http://tpcc.org/dailybiblereading!)).

**Day One:** Romans 8:5-9 | An epic battle.

**Day Two:** Romans 8:11 | Heavy lifting of the Holy Spirit.

**Day Three:** Romans 8:12 | No obligation.

**Day Four:** Romans 8:13 | Put in some work.

**Day Five:** Romans 8:11-14 | Lay low or lean in.