

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at vbc.online/events for more detailed information.
You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting admin@thecrossing.org.

- **Moms Beyond Starts** (for moms of school-aged children) - Tuesday, September 3rd
 - EXTOL: Prayer & Praise - Thursday, September 5th @ 7pm
 - Women's Ministry Create Day 2019 - Saturday, September 7th @ 9 am
- **VBC Kids Move-Up Sunday** (Preschool - 5th Grade) - Sunday, September 8th
 - Small Groups Meet & Greet - Sunday, September 8th
 - AWANA Clubs Start - Sunday, September 8th
- **Antioch Courses Start (Registration Open)** - Tuesday, September 17th
- **Ladies AM Bible Study (LAMBS) Starts** - Thursday, September 19th
- **New Brighton Camping Connections Trip** - September 18th - 22nd
- **CityTeam: Feeding & Chapel Service** - Saturday, September 21st
 - **Financial Peace University Starts** - Sunday, September 22nd
- **Henry Cowell Camping Connections Trip** - October 17th - 20th
- **Forensic Faith Conference** - Saturday, October 19th @ 9am

GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here!
Scan the QR code below to download our VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at www.vbc.online/new-here

SONGS & SERMONS

"Hosanna" - Paul Baloche, Brenton Brown

"Freedom" - Valley Bible Worship

"Great Are You Lord" - Deborah D. Smith, Michael W. Smith

"Only Wise God" - Valley Bible Worship

"Man of Sorrows" - Philip Paul Bliss, Roger Jones

To listen or watch today's message, visit www.vbc.online/media

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.....\$34,434.00
Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$1,170,756.00

Giving Last Week.....\$16,785.00
Y-T-D Giving.....\$1,092,811.00

Text "valleybiblegive" 779-77 to give today.

Romans

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL THAT MAKES US RIGHTEOUS BY FAITH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019
MUSIC: BEN WONG | MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MESSAGE NOTES

Life in step with the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:1-4

Reflecting on the 5 life-changing pictures.

Courtroom - Immersion - Grafted in - Willing servant - Marriage

Anticipating the delight of Romans 8.

1. "Spirit" occurs 34x in Romans; 21x in Romans 8 (2 refer to the human spirit-15a & 16b); 17x in Romans 8:1-17; and 4x in Romans 8:18-39).
2. Focus is not on who the Spirit is, but on what He does, especially His work on the believer's behalf.
3. Paul uses no commands in this chapter.
4. Instead, Romans 8 focuses on how things work, both God & His people.

Transitioning to life "according to the Spirit" (8:1-4).

1. What role does fear of punishment play in the lives of believers (8:1)?

Rom 8:1 *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

- a. God's life within us removes the fear of punishment.

John 5:24 *Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.*



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b. God's love becomes the dominant characteristic of our lives, and this love gradually drives out the fear of future judgment.

1 John 4:16 *So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us.*

2. How does our union with Christ enable us to live a new kind of life (8:2-4)?

a. By establishing a new freedom because of God's life within since we are "in Christ" (2).

Rom 8:2 *For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*

b. By trusting Christ's accomplishments as the basis of our new freedom and not merely "trying" to live a better life (3).

Rom 8:3 *For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,*

c. By cooperating with the Holy Spirit's energizing so as to experience the authentic life of God (4).

Rom 8:4 *in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

What are we to think about the law?

1. The law expresses God's love for/to His people.

Matt 22:36 *"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."*

Rom 13:8 *Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.*

2. The law can never give us life nor make us right before God.

Gal 2:21 *I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. . . . **3:21** Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.*

3. The law (individual commands) must never be viewed as a system of earning God's favor, but as a way of expressing our love for Him.

John 14:21 *Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."*

4. Thus, the Scriptures call the commands of God by such terms as "the law of liberty" (James 2:12), "the perfect . . . law of liberty" (James 1:25), and "the royal law" (James 2:8).