

## KIDS CATECHISM

Book/Chapter: Romans 8  
Category: Basic Christian Doctrine

Date: Week of Nov. 01, 2009  
Number: 08

**Parent to child(ren):** Have you ever watched a bird and thought to yourself, "Wow, that's really neat! I wish I could fly"? An old pastor named Talmedge Gentry had that feeling one morning while he was having his daily quiet time with God. As the sun was just coming up over the horizon and some birds began singing in a nearby tree, one bird in particular caught his attention. It was a beautiful bird, hopping back and forth on the tree branch, then, all of a sudden, jumping off, and with a flap of its wings, began rising up above the trees into the sky above him. He said, "For a few moments, as I watched that bird, I actually began to covet the life of a bird. It was so free! It could just effortlessly soar above all the problems of life down here. And oh," he said, "how I wished I could do the same that morning."

Now if he would have tried, could he have done it? Do you know the reason? That pastor could not have flown because of a law that God set in place that would have kept him held down on the earth. Do you know what that law is called? It is called, the law of gravity. The law of gravity holds things down to the earth. No amount of *human* effort - flapping our arms or running fast with our arms held out - could overcome it. On the other hand, God made the birds in such a way that, by the slightest effort on their parts, they can overcome the law of gravity. For you see, there is another law, called the law of aerodynamics, that, because of their unique design, allows birds to overcome the law of gravity that holds the rest of us down to the earth.

Last week, we read in the Bible about a law that hold us all down spiritually. Just like gravity, it affects everyone. It holds even all true Christians down from soaring above sin and selfishness and being more like Jesus. No matter how hard a true Christian tries, he can't overcome this law by his efforts. It is called "the law of sin" (*rd. again*, Romans 7:21-23). But in this week's chapter, we've got some amazing news! Just like there is a law that allows birds to overcome the law of gravity, there is a law that allows Christians to overcome "the law of sin." It is called, "the law of the Spirit of life." The Holy Spirit comes into the life of every true Christian and desires to fill our hearts with God's love day by day. Learning to walk in the Spirit - in His love - this is how a Christian is made able to rise above the downward pull of the law of sin and be more like Jesus.

**Q36.** Is there any condemnation from God coming to a person who is a true Christian?

**A36.** *No, there is none*, because through Jesus Christ, God removes all our guilt. **(8:1, 33-34)**

**Q37.** Since all Christians still have sinful flesh to contend with, is there any way we can ever live a life that is truly pleasing to God?

**A37.** *Yes, by walking in the Spirit* - which means devoting our lives to the things of God - *we can please God.* **(8:2, 4, 8)**

**Q38.** Is there an easy way to know whether I am walking in the flesh or walking in the Spirit?

**A38.** *Yes, by what my heart is focused on.* If it's pleasing myself, I am walking in the flesh, if it's pleasing God, I am walking in the Spirit. **(8:5-7)**

**(For question 4 - explain what an "heir" is first)**

**Q39.** Are all true Christians actually in God's family and heirs of all that He has prepared for those who love Him?

**A39.** *All who are truly saved are adopted by God into His family and are His heirs!* **(8:15-17, 32)**

**Q40.** Can anything or anyone separate us from the love of Christ?

**A40.** *No! Nothing can separate us from the love of God given to us through Christ Jesus our Lord* **(8:35-39)**

\*\*\* *Italicized words* can be used as shortened answers for smaller children. Older children can be helped to understand and learn the full answers.

## Scriptures to teach & to help your child(ren) hide in their hearts

### KJV

**Romans 8:2**, "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

**Romans 8:15**, "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, "Abba, Father."

**Romans 8:31**, "What shall we say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

### NLT

**Romans 8:2**, "So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus."

**Romans 8:15**, "So you should not be like cowering, fearful slaves. You should behave instead like God's very own children, adopted into his family ---calling him "Father, dear Father."

**Romans 8:31**, "What can we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?"

### ----- Suggested Memory Work -----

Up to age 6 / answers only (shortened, *italicized* answers)

Ages 7 - 9 / shortened answers plus one scripture

Ages 10-12 / full answers plus one or two scriptures

Ages 13 & up / full answers plus all three scriptures

NOTE TO DADS: At least one day this week, sit and read the "Parent to child(ren) section with your family. Then, read **Romans 8** with them (let those who can take turns and share in the reading). Make sure everyone is using the same translation. Next, go over the questions with them and see how they do just getting the basic idea. After that, help them with the wording of the answers (giving them one Q & A on M-F and encouraging them to memorize the answer is one way you could approach this part). By reading God's Word to them and passing on to them the things God is teaching you at Calvary Chapel, you will be discipling your own family, equipping them to be strong in the Lord and mighty in His Word (*see, I John 2:14b*)!