

Transformed, Part 9, Romans 8:5-13
“The Spirit Filled Dad”

Today is fathers’ Day – Hear it for the Dads

A)Awesome men in this Church – many of you I Know, admire, look up to, learn from and am really really blessed by -

Aa)Congrats to Dads of Grads. Elem. Jr. High / High – college.

B)Speaking of Dads:

Four men are in the hospital waiting room in Minneapolis Minn. because their wives are having babies. { **Before the days when dads in Delivery room**

A nurse goes up to the first guy and says, “Congratulations! You’re the father of twins.”

“That’s odd,” answers the man. “I work for the **Minnesota Twins!**”

Moments later Another nurse says to the second guy, “Congratulations! You’re the father of triplets!”

“That’s weird,” answers the second man. “I work for the **3M company!**”

10 min later A nurse tells the third man, “Congratulations! You’re the father of quadruplets!”

“That’s crazy,” he answers. “I work for the **Four Seasons hotel!**”

The last man is **groaning and banging his head against the wall. “What’s wrong?” the others ask.**

“I work for 7 Up!”

That would be stressful. – I think most of the Dads in this room would agree that being a Father is an incredible Blessing!

A)But it is also an **equally incredible Challenge. – Never stops – no matter how old your kids get.**

B)In fact as many of us are discovering – the older the kids get the **more challenging, complicated and expensive it gets to raise them – AMEN**

C)Dads are heros – They carry the weight, they provide the resources, they set the course, they take the hits. { **Often times with little appreciation.**

While flying from Denver to Kansas City, a woman overheard a mother speaking to her eight-year-old son. “Now remember — run to Dad first, then the dog.**”**

A)But that is sometimes the way it is – Dog – then Dad! - **Athletes – Hi Mom!**

B)Dads OFTEN get no respect - Mark Twain

“When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished by how much my dad had learned in seven years.” - Mark Twain

C)How true that is so often! – 6-7 days a week we wouldn't trade being a dad for anything –

Being a dad is a Blessing and a challenge – hard – but Praise the Lord – As Christians – we are not in it alone.

A)The Lord is with us – **His Spirit is in Us** to Help us Navigate the waters of life

B)Not just the dads – but all of us.

That is one of the great truths laid out for us in Romans Ch.8 The Blessings of the Spirit filled life.

A)Romans Chapter 8 is about the blessings of being **united** with Christ!

B)V.1 See the first aspect of our identification with Christ – **We are In Christ**

1)In Christ Jesus – there is NO CONDEMNATION.

2) **Jesus condemned in our place** – He took our punishment and we received His righteousness

C)V.2 We see the **2nd aspect of our union to Christ** – not only are we in Christ **but He is in us!** –

1)The Spirit of life in Christ {**HS in our hearts**} has made us free from the law of sin and death.

2)Becoming a Christian doesn't mean that it is impossible to sin – but it does mean that it is possible not to sin.

D)No longer bound! -

D)V.11 puts it this way: **“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”**

E)The Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead is alive in us – to bring life to us and power to us! –

1)New life in Christ, new power through Christ.

But to enjoy this new life – to walk in this new power – there is a constant choice that I have to make!

A)**V.4 It is fulfilled in us** – not by us – but in us – who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

B)That word according is key: It speaks of custom, habit, a fashion what you wear! { **What you are known for and known by!**

1)Your fragrance – Certain smell

C)What **defines you** what controls you?

Walking according to the flesh vs walking according to the Spirit – Which defines you?

A)In order to walk according to the spirit – there are 4 key elements we can derive from verses 5-13

B) #1 Perspective is Key!

“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

Paul is contrasting two ways of living!

A) One that leads to death – the other that leads to life.

B) Being **carnally or fleshly minded** – results in death!

1) The idea of death here is Barren, unfruitful, unfilled,

C) Life would be the opposite of that – **Overflowing, Fruitful, fulfilled!**

Now understand being spiritually minded doesn't mean that you go thru the day singing praise songs - quoting verses / thinking heaven.

A) God Knows that we have to live in this world – we have **to work** and we have obligations and responsibilities.

B) Physical things like careers, School, houses, cars, possessions, resources, things that are going to take up a large **part of our time, energy and thought life.**

DEFINITIONS

C) Being spiritually minded is not necessarily thinking about different things. But it is thinking differently about life.

1) It is about having a different perspective and approach to all the things that fill our lives.

D) Learning to always factor Jesus into the equation and to see life from His perspective.

1) Christian world view { **THE WORD** -

So what does it mean to live Carnally?

A) Jesus defined it for us in Luke 12- Those who are fleshly minded are concerned about what eat / what wear / where go / how pay get there.

B) We often think of being carnally minded as **robbing banks and doing Heroin.**

1) Those are extreme by products of a life that is set on the flesh.

C) But being fleshly or carnally minded starts with thinking that my sense of Joy & **fulfillment** is going to be derived from what the Bible calls temporal and Material.

D) My pleasure and fulfillment are going to be derived from what I eat, and where I go on vacation, what I can buy, where I live, - **my Profession.**

It simply means my **Focus is on the temporal.**

A) How maintain what I have – or how can I get to the next level in life, career.

B) Understand – I am not suggesting that it is wrong to have goals – or ambition.

1) The problem is when I think that achieving those goals is going to bring ultimate fulfillment.

C) Being carnally minded is when I am focused on the temporal, the material as the basis for my joy

1) My satisfaction – my fulfillment.

Often leads to comparisons - One mom shared this week – easy it was as a young mom to compare her lifestyle with others, unfulfilled – didn't compare

A) All of us can fall into that trap – none of us are immune to that.

B) Paul said: When we compare ourselves with ourselves it is not wise!

C) We have all been given a lot in life. – **We have all been planted in a field of life.** – We need to bloom where we are planted.

When my joy and fulfillment are derived from what temporal – what I am accomplishing/ amassing

A) My passion and pursuit will be about – how get more, experience more. { **Next time / next thing**

Paul says that way of life leads to DEATH! Why is that death?

A) **Because the flesh can never be satisfied. – Ask Solomon – Vanity of Vanity**

B) We have been made for something greater than to live to fulfill my flesh and find pleasure in earthly things

C) Again don't miss understand me – God wants us to enjoy life – this world – His creation.

1) **great that we can – but that is not the end all.**

D) That is the mindset of the natural man – **YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE! Right ?**

1) Wrong, this life is the Prelude – Eternity is the real thing.

We have been made for something greater than to live to fulfill my flesh and find pleasure in earthly things

A) The Bible tells us that man was created in the image of God! – God is a trinity – Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

B) **Man is a lesser trinity of sorts. – Man consists of Spirit, Soul, and Body.**

C)The spirit is the deepest part of you, the real you. The part of you that lives for eternity.

D)The **soul is the mind and emotions**. The Conscience, that constantly interacts with the Spirit.

E)The body is the tent – the means by which the spirit and the soul express themselves to the world.

When God created man in the Garden, God the Father, Son, the Holy Spirit Created man in His image: Spirit, soul, body!

A)And there was this beautiful connection between the Spirit of God and the spirit of man. – Gen. Adam and God walked..... Of the day!

B)But when Adam gave into his flesh-chose to please his flesh and ate the forbidden fruit, he allowed his **body the material aspect of his nature** to be on top.

1)He allowed his flesh to assume predominance over his spirit and in doing so severed his direct communion with God's Spirit.

C)Now there is a conflict – The body on the one side the flesh on the other side fighting for control of the **Soul – the mind and the emotions**.

But we have been created by God as spiritual beings and **His aim** is that we would find our sense of joy, **satisfaction and fulfillment** from our relationship with Him.

A)That our mind and emotions would not be **dictated and defined and directed** by what is going on in our world – but by **who is** living inside.

B)His Spirit – communing with our Spirit

1)His word - forming our beliefs and behaviors

C)But when it comes to day to day living – duties responsibilities – problems –

1)The structure of our lives – this can be hard

One reason is this especially with men - we **tend to compartmentalize** Our lives! –

A)We divide our lives up subconsciously into groups

B)On the one hand there is our spiritual life. Church, worship, giving, serving.

1)Some Sundays – others every day at least to start the day.

C)**Then we have work** – Pressure, duties, relationships, task to perform, money to make, problems to solve.

D)**Family** – Wife and my kids – they all have needs. Need time attention {**Trying to juggle all of that.**

E)**Then if u are lucky** – You have some hobbies – me time- Surf, golf, read books, play video games, watch tv programs.

And most men live in a way where those compartments rarely intersect.

A)Guy goes to work and the last thing he is thinking about is **what does God want me to do today.** –

B)The last thing he is praying is Lord help me to be sensitive to Your spirit today, in my business dealings, in my interactions with customers, employees

1)Why? Because **this is who He is and this is what he does** – he is comfortable there – His identity is there.

C)That is why from time to time someone will come to us in the church and who works for someone else in the church and say – **that guy/gal is a radically different person at work then they are here.**

D)And the problem is not necessarily that the guy is **a hypocrite or that his faith is not genuine,**

1)but rather – **he just hasn't learned to allow God's spirit to lead him in that area of his life.**

But when a Problem arises – he approaches it like he always has – doesn't pray, doesn't think about what would Jesus do! –

A)He handles it – **because that is what He does** – and it is who He is

B)And it has been working for him for yrs. Ain't broke, don't fix it { **BLESS IT GOD!!!!**

1)But there is death – His witness – His character His reputation as a believer.

C)Missing out on the **life of the Spirit** – leading him Helping him – {He is tired and frustrated.

He comes home – problems with the wife or one of the kids and once again –he just handles it. – Fix it mode.

A)That is who he is and it is what he does. -

B)But those who are walking in the Spirit see life differently – **they don't divide their lives into Compartments** –

1)They see the **spiritual blending together** with the daily activities and responsibilities as this all encompassing goal of glorifying Christ

C)The Spiritual man sees life from a completely different perspective.

1)Perspective that is shaped by God's word – **His life –exist to bring glory to Christ.**

Those who are walking in the Spirit have a broader perspective / See this **world differently** - passing / heaven is where it is at

A) **See people differently** - see them as eternal - spend eternity in one of two places, heaven or Hell

B) They **see situations differently** - fleshly minded views the difficulties they face in life as **troubles** *they want to get rid of.*

C) Spiritually minded sees them as **trials** *they want to get through* - a training ground preparing them for the next - task or opportunity

See Perspective is Key!

A) So if you see your **Job** as only a place of employment

B) **it is how you make your money - how you put food on the table & pay the bills**

1) You have a fleshly mindset about your occupation

C) **But if you see it as the very Job where God has placed you so you can be a vessel He can work through -**

1) Place which allows you to make a living so you can support your family but also partner w/ the Lord in ministry thru giving

E) **You have the mind of the Spirit about your Job.**

How do you view your house/ apartment?

A) Do you see it as the place where God has placed you for this season to raise your family and build relationships with pp for His kingdom.

B) Or is it just The place where **you live, sleep, eat, investment until you can flip** and move to a bigger house or get out of the apartment and move to a house.

1) If that is your mentality – you are probably not looking to interact with pp because you are thinking – **I am not going to be here long.**

C) How many pp have you shared Jesus with at work – neighborhood – your sphere of influence? -

D) Not any – probably have the wrong perspective – only thinking spiritually when you are doing **“spiritual things”**

So Perspective is Key

#2 Prayer is key!

A) Walking according to {habit, custom, fashion, fragrance} the spirit – is being mindful of – His spirit leading you – directing you.

B) Prayer is going to be a big part of that.

1) **1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing**

C) Tickle in the throat - Lord what want to do

Why? He wants to **gives us supernatural wisdom** to deal with a conflict in a way that you never would have imagined.

A) This is where walking in the Spirit gets really practical.

B) Constantly praying – Lord what should I do?

1) How react ?

C) He impresses on your heart – show grace – to share – pray for someone-

1) **He moves and it is exciting** –

D) **He is so wise !** – He is so together –

1) The more we learn to do that – the more we sense His leading naturally.

2) **Result is LIFE** - fruitful, fulfilling – rewarding

Even - When everything around you physically is falling apart – there is this sense inside your heart that He is in control. Peace -

A) He is working- you find yourself instead of you getting worked up in the flesh –you pray how are you going to do this Lord – peace vs panic

B) Rest vs turmoil - Phil 4:6-7

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Prayer is key!

#3 His Power is key!

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. {New birth – new creation} Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. {No conviction about living to please the flesh? No discipline – don't have the spirit don't belong to Christ.-Need to repent and get saved

10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, {body is falling apart and subject to this world} but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

A) The Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead is in us – to empower us!

B) Christ power is available to us – how often do we tap into it?

1) Many of us go through life rarely use the power that is available to us.

C) What would you think – guy on a motorcycle – feet power – flintstones –

1) What are you doing.

D) I wonder if – heaven – Angels – the Lord Wonder that about us.

2 Peter 1:3

“His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness.”

A) Those who are walking according to the Spirit are not trying to live the Christian life in the power of the flesh.

B) But they are walking in the power of the Spirit.

1) Absence of striving

C) River going with the flow – vs swimming up stream.

Perspective is key

Prayer is Key

His Power is Key

#4 Death is Key!

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors — not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

A) There is a living that kills and there is a killing that produces life!

B) If you merely live after the flesh – it is living that kills – produces barren, unfulfilled –

C) But if you are constantly putting to death the deeds, the tendencies, the urges of the flesh – the result is life.

1) There is victory – there is life – there is an open door to experience the leading and empowering of God’s Spirit.

A pilot was flying his small plane one day, when he heard a noise which he recognized as the gnawing of a rat. Wondering what its sharp teeth were cutting through, he suddenly realized with horror that it might be an electric wire.

Then he remembered that rodents can't survive at high altitudes.

Immediately he began climbing until finally he had to put on his oxygen mask.

Soon the gnawing sound ceased, and when he landed he found the rat -- dead.