

Additional Questions, Romans 8:1-17

1. Verses 8 & 9 NIV refer to the “realm” of the flesh and the “realm” of the Spirit, and in verse 12 we read that we have no obligation to live according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Imagine that you are now living in the United States and have become a U.S. Citizen, due to the gracious and generous gift of a benefactor, after growing up under the oppressive and godless regime of North Korea. Then you receive word that you are obligated to return from time to time to North Korea, to live under their laws and belief system. What would be your response?

Write out your thoughts about your obligation now to live as your flesh dictates.

Now write about your obligation to live according to the dictates of the Holy Spirit.

2. Verses 15-17 – What does it mean to you that you are actually a child of God? (It may help to think about all a good earthly parent does for a young child and expand on that, remembering what Jesus said in Luke 11:13.)

Write out a prayer of thanksgiving to your Heavenly Father.

3. How does verse 17 encourage you about the trials and suffering you face? How does knowing you are a child of God and joint-heir with Christ help?