

1. **GOD LOVES YOU** and wants you to have **eternal life with Him**.

*John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."*

But most people aren't experiencing a meaningful life and aren't sure that they have eternal life because...

2. Man has a **SIN problem** which **SEPARATES** him from GOD. Every one has sinned.

*Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"*

3. The **good news** is that **JESUS CHRIST** is God's **solution** to your sin problem. He is the **ONLY way** to heaven.

*1 Peter 3:18 "For Christ also died for sins once and for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God..."*

4. Therefore you must **REPENT** of your sins and place your **FAITH** in **JESUS alone** to **save** you.

*Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the GIFT OF GOD; not as a result of works, that no one should boast."*

5. Upon believing and receiving Jesus, you have a **NEW LIFE** with complete assurance of **SALVATION**.

*1 John 5:13 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."*

*Thank God* (Romans 7:24, 8)

As we celebrate Thanksgiving here in Canada let us remember that we should not only give thanks for the land and the harvest (as the forefathers did), but according to the Bible, we should "...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

Today let us acknowledge and give thanks to the Holy Spirit. Many Christians emphasize too much the ministry of Jesus Christ, and neglect the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Jesus in heaven has said "I will send the comforter" and so the Holy Spirit is the one ministering to our hearts now. We need to emphasize both the ministry of Jesus and Christ and the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

There are two questions Paul posed to us (Romans 7:24) that he answered in Romans 8:

1. O wretched man that I am who will deliver me from this valley of death?
2. Who shall separate us from the love of God?

The answer to the first question is: I thank God for Jesus our Lord (Romans 7:25, NIV); I thank God because Jesus is the answer (Romans 7:25, NLT); I thank God because I belong to Jesus (New Life Translation). Isn't it fitting that we give thanks because we belong to the panel of God?

In Romans ch 1-7, the Holy Spirit is mentioned only once but in ch 8 the Holy Spirit is mentioned 20 times. Romans 8 is about the ministry of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:1) *There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

When Paul asked, "Who will deliver me?" he asked this in a spiritual perspective. In Romans 1, ...all heathens are sinners; in ch 2, all the Gentiles are sinners; in ch 2-3 all the Jews are sinners, and in Romans 3:25 all have sinned ... Because all people are sinners, we deserve to be condemned, judged, all justified to be condemned and punished by God, but because we belong to Jesus Christ, we accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, are no longer under the condemnation of God.

There are different issues about the new "walk". You are not under condemnation who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit. Christian life is an active, consistent day-by-day living. How do we know that we are not condemned? - if we walk according to the Holy Spirit.

"Walk" relates to our Christian life. How are we made free? When we accept Jesus Christ, the spirit gives us life, helps us and delivers us not to continue on sinning. There are two categories of men, according to God – those who live according to the flesh (carnal), and those according to the Holy Spirit (spiritual).

Paul emphasizes how to change the mind – for those who live according to the flesh set their minds on things of the flesh, and those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on things of the Spirit. The mind refers to content, to our thought patterns of behaviour. The mind is the centre of struggle between the spiritual nature and carnal nature of man. Romans 6:11, says *Consider yourself dead to sin but alive in Jesus Christ.* The carnally minded is dead and the spiritually minded is alive. But only the Holy Spirit can change the mind of a person.

If you believe in Christianity, then you should know that the spirit is different from the body, but the mind is different. The mind must be controlled by the Holy Spirit. Charles Stanley says you cannot be a caterpillar once you become a butterfly. Once you become born again, set free and forgiven by God, do you go back to being carnal, a sinner? The bible says there is no more condemnation because you have been liberated by God.

Do you believe that you have been set free? Do you believe that you are no longer condemned? People with anxiety disorder, with depression, with a lot of psychosomatic disorder, condemn themselves and do not forgive themselves, and they do not know God. Once they realize that

## Thank God (cont'd)

there is a God who is willing to help them, that forgives them, this helps them recuperate and become whole again.

To live according to the Holy Spirit means that we are born again. The Holy Spirit sits at the center of our heart and dwells there. The spirit is alive because of righteousness, and the Holy Spirit is the divine agent of life in us. The Holy Spirit empowers us to claim victory over the flesh (ch 8:15-27), and the Holy Spirit has complete control of our lives to create, sustain and preserve our spiritual life.

John 14:26: *But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*

The ministry of the Holy Spirit gives

1. Illumination and
2. Helps us in our walk/sanctify our life

Thank God for this. God planned (foreknew, predestined, planned, justified, glorified). All these are in past perfect tense because the Holy Spirit will carry you through until the redemption of our body. Romans 24:8: *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.*

We thank God because we have no condemnation when we live according to the Spirit, because God dwells in us, because we are led by the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is a witness that we are children of God and suffering is of no worth compared to the glory of God. We thank God because the Holy Spirit helps us by making intercession, and all things work together for good. Who can separate us from the love of God? No one. Romans 8:1 says there is now no condemnation. No one can separate us from the love of God. Thank God for the Holy Spirit protecting us in every aspect of your life. Thank God for the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**There will be a special meeting this *Sunday, October 15, 2017* at 11:30 am after the church service. The Church Nominating Committee will submit the names of nominees to the Board of Directors/Council of Servants for approval/affirmation by the membership. Also on the agenda is Finance matters.**

**We look forward to your presence and participation. Thank you.**

**Snacks will be served during the meeting. Please remember to pay for parking before the worship service to avoid rushing out after the meeting.**

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please use CCF tithe envelopes (available at usher's table) for ALL tithes, offerings and donations. Our tithe box is located at the usher's table.

*If you're giving via cheque, please write it to CCF Vancouver.*

You can now give ONLINE!! Just go to [www.ccfvancouver.org/give/](http://www.ccfvancouver.org/give/) to donate.

# Portrait of Love-driven Obedience: Persevering Disciple

October 15, 2017 | 10am  
700 Royal Ave. New Westminster



## ORDER OF SERVICE

Call to worship ♦ Praise and worship ♦ Children dismissal ♦  
Sermon ♦ Response song ♦ Benediction



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Request/Answered Prayer

Please drop in tithe boxes

