

Under the Influence

Message Handout

The Spirit's Role

1. He's a LIBERATING Spirit

1. Romans 8:1–30 (NLT) — 1 So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. 2 And because you belong to him, **the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you** from the power of sin that leads to death. 3 The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins.

2. He's a GUIDING Spirit

1. Romans 8:5 **Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. 6 So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.** 7 For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. 8 That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. 9 But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you.

3. He's a STRENGTHENING Spirit

1. Romans 8:11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, **he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.** 12 Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. 13 For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if **through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live.**

4. He's an AFFIRMING Spirit

1. Romans 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." 16 **For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.**

5. He a PRAYING Spirit

1. Romans 8:26 **And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. 27 And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.** 28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are

called according to his purpose for them.