

Saturday, May 16

## **Scripture**

- *Romans 8:15-16* (\*Galatians 4:6-7 is very similar)

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

- *1 John 4:13-15*

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

## **Who is God?**

The Holy Spirit bears witness to and confirms our salvation.

## **Spiritual Encouragement**

Today's verses are very similar to yesterday's. Here's the difference: yesterday's focus on the Spirit as "seal and guarantee" is what we might call the "objective" work of the Spirit. In other words, God gives the Spirit as a seal and guarantee, but there is little emphasis on our experience or emotions.

In today's verses, the Spirit's work is more subjective. Because the Spirit dwells in us, He impacts how we think, feel, and respond to God's saving work in our life through Jesus.

Someone might ask, "How can I know that I'm a Christian?" This is a good question that we could answer from several angles. The most basic answer, though, is: "the Holy Spirit bears witness that I am a child of God."

Maybe this illustration would be helpful: My youngest daughter is adopted. When she wakes up in the morning (or when she needs something), she doesn't go into our closet to find her adoption certificate to confirm she can yell, "Good morning, Dad" or "Dad, help me!" Her confidence as my child is deep in her spirit, not on a piece of paper.

Father, thank You for adopting me as Your child by Your Spirit and not simply purchasing me with a piece of paper as Your servant. Thank You for the Spirit who bears witness not only to the truth of Jesus but also to my daily hope in Jesus.