

**Sermon Series: Romans**

**Sermon Text:** Romans 8:5-8 The Life of the Mind

**The Spiritual life is produced and energized by the Spiritual mind which is formed by Spiritual existence.**

**1) The Holy Spirit gives Christ's people a Godward existence (8:5a).**

- a) "those who live according to the flesh/Spirit" is literally "those who *are* of the flesh/Spirit" indicating contrasting states of being, existence, and "basic moral condition" (Murray)
  - i) flesh=corrupt and unredeemed human nature
  - ii) Spirit=Holy Spirit
- b) **Application:**
  - i) Christianity is not merely a way of life, it is a Godward existence.
  - ii) Regeneration/New Creation

**2) The Holy Spirit produces a Godward mind in Christ's people (8:5-8).**

- a) The Greek term for mind (*phrēn*) is broader than intellect, including the affections and will.
- b) The mind of flesh *is* death: "hostile to God"; "does not submit to God's law"; "cannot submit to God's law"; "cannot please God"
- c) The mind of the Spirit *is* life and peace: alive to God, at peace with God, peaceful, peace-making
- d) **Application:**
  - i) "Contrary to what seems to be quite generally supposed, thinking cannot be avoided by the Christian man" (J. Gresham Machen, *What Is Faith?*, 242).
  - ii) God gave us His Word.
  - iii) Psalms, hymns, and Spiritual songs (Eph. 5:18-19; Col. 3:16).
  - iv) Pastors and Teachers
  - v) Spiritual Knowledge is:
    - (1) loving God
    - (2) humble to learn and grow
    - (3) peace

**Doxology:** At that time Jesus declared, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was Your gracious will." (Matthew 11:25-26)