

"Forever Young" by Bob Dylan

May God bless and keep you always
May your wishes all come true
May you always do for others
And let others do for you
May you build a ladder to the stars
And climb on every rung
May you stay forever young

Forever young, forever young May you stay forever young

May you grow up to be righteous
May you grow up to be true
May you always know the truth
And see the lights surrounding you
May you always be courageous
Stand upright and be strong
And may you stay forever young

Forever young, forever young May you stay forever young

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I. How can I know I am a child of God?

Romans 8:12–17 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — ¹³for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him. (NASB)

a.	The	O	f t	he	iaZ	rit

Romans 8:15–16 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God. (NASB)

Journal of John Wesley, May 24, 1738: "In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's Preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation, and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."

	b.	The	of the Spirit		
			2–13 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— If are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds ody, you will live. (NASB)		
		I John 2:3	By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. (NASB)		
		I John 2:29 of Him.	If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born (NASB)		
		I John 3:14 not love	We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does abides in death. (NASB)		
II.		ow can I know e Signs of Goo	w it is the Spirit? I's Spirit:		
	a.		Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the ess of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and your and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." (NASB)		
	b.				
	I Corinthians 8:1–3 Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have in Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies. ² If anyone supposes that he knows anything, if yet known as he ought to know; ³ but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him. (NASB)				
	c.				
			22–23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, ess, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (NASB)		
			What do we do if we don't have assurance?		
	Act		k, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. (NASB)		
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AN	SWI	ER KEY:			

I-b. OUTER WITNESS

IT IS KNOWING THAT MAKES YOU COME ALIVE.

II-b. HUMILITY

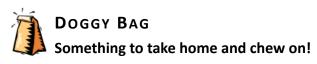
II.

I-a. INNER WITNESS

WE ASK, WE SEEK, WE KNOCK

II-a. <u>REPENTENCE</u>

II-c. SPIRITUAL FRUIT



1.	What would	I do if I	could be	a child	again?
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2.	Do I know that I am a child of God? Do I have the assurance that I am forgiven, redeemed, adopted into God's family,
	and regenerated in Christ? When did I experience this assurance? How do I experience this assurance? What difference
	does it make in how I live?

- 3. Have I experienced the inner witness of the Spirit?
- 4. Have I experienced the outer witness of the Spirit? How have I seen the Spirit change my life?
- 5. How do I know that the spirit I feel inside is the Holy Spirit and not my emotions? What are the signs of God's Spiritual work in my life?

Take a step in faith this week:

- Let us know you are here today. Fill out a Connection Card every Sunday through either the Christ Church app or the Connection Card tab in the top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform (LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG).
- Go to our weekly online bulletin and get involved with mission and ministry this week. Use the Christ Church app, or the Resources tab* in top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform, to access the current edition each week.
- Join us for **Wednesday Night Dinner** (5:30pm) & **Discipleship** (6:30pm). Visit **CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/ESSENTIALS** to learn about this semester's classes, or contact Pam Charbonneau at <u>pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org</u> to learn all about your current and upcoming discipleship options.
- Join your pastors and church family as we **Read Through the New Testament in 2024**, using the YouVersion Bible App to read together and encourage one another along the way. Learn more and sign up: bit.ly/readthebible2024
- As part of this Bible reading plan, join us weekdays at noon online at <u>LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG</u> for Daily Online Bible
 Study to discuss our daily readings. Learn more at <u>CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/DOBS</u>
- **Sign up to serve!** Contact Bev at <u>badams@christchurchva.org</u> for suggestions. We have an immediate need for dishwashers during Wednesday dinners.

^{*}Quick link to Connection Resources: CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/CONNECT-WITH-US