



“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, ¹⁷and 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 _____ of the Spirit

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

Romans 8:12–13 *So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for 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. (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 *If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him. (NASB)*

I John 3:14 *We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death. (NASB)*

II. How can I know it is the Spirit?

The Signs of God’s Spirit:

a. _____

Acts 2:38–39 *Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and your children 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 knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies. ²If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know; ³but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him. (NASB)*

c. _____

Galatians 5:22–23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (NASB)*

What do we do if we don’t have assurance?

Acts 7:7–8 *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. (NASB)*

ANSWER KEY:

I-a. INNER WITNESS

I-b. OUTER WITNESS

II-a. REPENTENCE

II-b. HUMILITY

II-c. SPIRITUAL FRUIT

WE ASK, WE SEEK, WE KNOCK

IT IS KNOWING THAT MAKES YOU COME ALIVE.



DOGGY BAG

Something to take home and chew on!

1. What would I do if I could be a child again?
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.CHURCHVA.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 pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org 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 LIVE.CHURCHVA.ORG for **Daily Online Bible Study** to discuss our daily readings. Learn more at CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/DOBS
- **Sign up to serve!** Contact Bev at badams@christchurchva.org for suggestions. We have an immediate need for dishwashers during Wednesday dinners.

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