Life in the Spirit, Part 1 John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 8.
- B. If one is a Christian, he lives in the Spirit.
- II. The Christian life is life in the Spirit. Only the Spirit has power over the flesh.
- III. The law of the Spirit regenerates a person and sets him free from the condemnation of the law. (John 3:3)
 - A. We are born again by the Spirit.
 - B. Positionally, we stand in righteousness through faith by Jesus Christ.
 - C. The characteristic of the Christian is that he walks by the Spirit.
 - D. We do not walk after the flesh because we have been renewed by the Spirit.
- IV. The ministry of the Spirit.
 - A. He subdues our flesh.
 - 1. The Spirit of God changes the pattern of our living.
 - 2. The flesh is the problem.
 - 3. No Christian can be subject to sin as a pattern of life.
 - 4. We will sin, but the overall pattern has been changed. (1 John 1:10; 1 Corinthians 3; 1 John 2:1; 38)
 - 5. The process of holiness is going on whether we like it or not.
 - 6. The unsaved person is in constant rebellion against God.
 - 7. Faith is the only way to please God because it is the only thing that brings about the righteousness of God. (Ephesians 2:10, 2 Corinthians 7:1)
 - 8. We are debtors to the Spirit to kill the deeds of the flesh. (Galatians 5:24)
 - B. He witnesses to our sonship.
 - C. He guarantees our inheritance.
 - D. He helps us in our prayers.

Application Questions:

1. What is the "law of the Spirit" in contrast to "the law of sin and flesh" in Romans 8?
2. Should we have certain expectations with regard to how a Christian acts? Explain.
3. What does it look like to experience the Spirit's power? How can a Christian access that power today?