

# THE *Spirit of Life*

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## **He First Loved Us**

We are saved by grace through faith. We are saved by what we believe, not by what we do. However, what we believe will eventually change what we do. When we receive Christ, He takes us just the way we are — a sinner in need of a savior. We didn't deserve His grace or His sacrifice. It changes the way we look at others because He first loved us just the way we were. When we look at others, they may not deserve our love, but we love them as they are because Christ accepted us as we were.

When we received the Holy Spirit by faith, we knew that He wanted to deliver us from practicing sin. The Holy Spirit works in us to make us holy so that we won't walk in sin again. He reveals our new nature to us and makes us long for our heavenly home and our immortal body. He sets our mind on things above, not earthly things. He helps us capture every fleshly or earthly thought the enemy puts in our mind and replaces them with good thoughts. He renews our mind by showing us the truth.

When we look at our brothers and sisters in Christ, we realize that the Holy Spirit wants to make them holy. If they are walking in sin, we must let them know that they must repent or they will not inherit God's Kingdom. We must also pray for them, because the Holy Spirit took us the way we were and began the process of making us holy. We must now pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ that their sins will be forgiven and that God will give them spiritual wisdom, strength and power that they also might be overcomers.