

ACCESS

Life Group Discussion Questions – October 24, 2021

Part 4: Let's fixate on our HOPE!

Romans 8:18-25

Let's focus on the hope of **DAILY HELP** and **DAILY VICTORIES**

- We are *'in the Spirit'* so the **SPIRIT** is in us vs. 9-13
- We can be **LED** by the Spirit vs. 14
- We are God's **ADOPTED** children vs. 15
- We are in **COLLABORATION** with the Spirit vs. 16
- We are **HEIRS** of God and Jesus vs. 17
- We will one day be **GLORIFIED** with Him vs. 17

We have hope in **FUTURE, PERMANENT FLAWLESSNESS**

vs. 18-25

- Future life **DOMINATES** current life vs. 18
- Creation is on its **TIPTOES** looking for renewal vs. 19
- Creation presently **GROANS** for renovation vs. 20-22
- **BELIEVERS** also presently groan within vs. 23
- Our hope **TRANSCENDS** our groaning vs. 24-25

Conclusions:

- **EVERYONE** and **EVERYTHING** presently groans
- There will **ALWAYS** be some sort of struggle
- But we have daily **POWERFUL** assistance vs. 9-17
- We also have an **UNCOMPARABLE** future!
- Let's show **GRACE** to the struggling!

Romans 8:18 *For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

DISCOVER (read Romans 8:18-25)

1. What comes to mind when you think of heaven? What will heaven be like?
2. Share an experience that was particularly hard because you had to wait. What made it so hard? What emotions did it trigger? How did your feelings change or increase as time wore on? What did you do to cope with the waiting?

EXPLORE

1. In what ways do you see creation being subjected to futility or ineffectiveness? How can creation which does not have a soul or consciousness long for something?
2. Read Luke 19:38-40. What can we infer about the status of creation? Are we being adopted in Christ or is this already a completed process? What makes you most excited to experience the final and full adoption?
3. Re-read Romans 8:17. What are the three actualities mentioned? What is our hope? What happens to our hope (and faith) when we are "in glory with Him"? (see Revelation 7:16-17)
4. In the Old Testament what were the "first fruits"? What does it mean that we have the "first fruits of the Spirit"? Why do we groan? Where have we seen his kind of groaning behavior in Romans?
5. Re-read Romans 8:24-25. Explain the importance of combining perseverance together with eagerness.

EXPERIENCE

1. How can you use the hope of future glory with Christ to encourage other believers as they go through times of trial and difficulty?
2. Generally speaking, people are more available to the message of Jesus and His love for them when they go through crises, especially those crises that threaten their health/mortality, like Covid 19. How can you use the future hope of glory in heaven to reach out to these folks? What passages in scripture might you reference? (see John 14:1-6) Have you ever done this? What happened?
3. Is thinking about heaven and who you will become when you are finally with Jesus face-to-face something you ever think about? Why or why not? If you do think about it, how does thinking about it help you?

PRAY/ACTION

Pray... Our gracious God and Father, You know those things in our hearts that we barely dare to hope for. Today we give them and trust them to You. We do this knowing that You can do more than we could ever guess, imagine or request. Father God, You are our only hope.

Action... Make a commitment this week to share the hope that you have of future glory in Christ with one person you know is the midst of a life storm.

Auburn Grace Community Church – October 24th, 2021