

ACCESS

God will carry you through! He's DECREED it!

Romans 8:28-30

The Father WEAVES everything to bring about 'good'

vs. 28

It's a TWO-WAY relationship

Both our PRESENT and our FUTURE good

Both His PRESENT and His FUTURE glory

The Father's FIVE STEP plan has been COMPLETED!

vs. 29-30

He FOREKNEW you

– Predetermined to have a personal relationship with you

He PREDESTINED you

– Predetermined to transform your character

He CALLED you

– Moment of Internal Invitation

He JUSTIFIED you

– A Declaration, IMPUTED Jesus' Righteous

He GLORIFIED you

– Sees you already in your HEAVENLY condition

Life Group Discussion Questions – November 21, 2021

Romans 8:28 *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

DISCOVER (read Romans 8:28-30)

1. If you could summarize the teachings of this passage in one word, what would it be?
2. Do you consider yourself a confident person? Where does your confidence come from? How does insecurity affect relationships with others? With God?
3. What does justification mean in America's courts system? What does it mean in God's eyes? Discuss the term "imputed righteousness". (see Genesis 15:6)

EXPLORE

1. A Christian acquaintance of yours says, "No one can know that they are saved." Does this make him/her an "unbeliever" and, therefore, "unsaved"? Is it possible to be saved and not know it? How would you respond?
2. Some believers struggle with knowing they are securely destined for heaven. Read John 5:24. What are five truths of this verse that we can emphasize? On reading this verse, how can a believer rest in the assurance of their salvation? If doubts persist, what area(s) in their personal theology might need greater illumination?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Where did Paul's thorn originate from? Why did God allow this? What would have happened to the gospel message through Paul if there had been no thorn in his flesh? Does this mean that God was withholding His exaltation of Paul? (see 1 Peter 5:6)
4. Re-read Romans 8:28-30. What important truths can we learn from verse 30? Does the verse leave any room for a few people to somehow slip through the cracks? Roughly how long does this process take from start to finish? Where are we in this process now? How does God call us? What does it mean that we will be glorified? Isn't God the only one who deserves glory?

EXPERIENCE

1. What circumstances are currently in your life that God can use for good (according to His purpose)?
2. How does our security in our relationship with Christ affect our relationship with others? Are there people in your life that can be considered a "thorn in your flesh" in some way? How can these unsettled affiliations be transformed into opportunities for the glory of the Lord? Identify the first three steps must you first take.

PRAY

Pray...Father in heaven, we admit that at times we don't believe that You are bringing in beauty through ugly situations. Sometimes it's because we don't understand but at times it's because we simply don't agree with You. Forgive us for our presuppositions of You and Your perfect will. Help us to trust You with the broken pieces and to believe in the promises of Your word in Romans 8:28.

Action...Ask God for more faith to deal with a festering problem in your life. What is one bold, loving gesture you can do that demonstrates the increased measure of faith you just asked for?