# THE GOSPEL OF GRACE A Study in the Book of Romans

## More Than Conquerors Romans 8:28–39

"If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31

### Read Romans 8:28–29.

- 1. In these verses, Paul continues to address the concern of suffering in the Christian's life. What kinds of experiences may be included in the phrase "in all things" (v. 28)?
- 2. What do YOU consider your "good"? What does GOD consider your "good"? (v. 29)
- 3. For what kind of people does God work out all these things for good? (v. 28)
- 4. How do you know if you "love him" (v. 28)? (Jn. 14:21; 1 Jn. 5:3–5)
- 5. You have been called "according to (God's) purpose" (vv. 28–29). What is his ultimate purpose for his creation? (Eph. 1:10b)

What is his purpose for you personally within this larger, all-encompassing purpose? (v. 29a)

6. In light of this purpose, consider how the Son himself was made perfect (Heb. 2:10). How will YOU then be made perfect? (Rom. 5:3–4; Heb. 10:14)

### Read Romans 8:29–30 and Ephesians 1:3-5.

- Verse 29 says that God "foreknew" and "predestined" you. When did he do that? (Eph. 1:4)
- Verse 30 says that God "called" you. When did he do that? (Eph. 1:13)

When did YOU experience that call? (Consider sharing with your group.)

#### Predestination:

"What predestination means, in its most elementary form is that our final destination, heaven or hell, is decided by God not only before we get there, but before we are even born. It teaches that our ultimate destiny is in the hands of God. How does God choose? One view is that God makes that choice on the basis of his foreknowledge... of those whom he knows will choose Him. The Reformed view holds that left to himself, no fallen person will ever choose God. Fallen people still have a free will and are able to choose what they desire. But the problem is that we have no desire for God and will not choose Christ unless first regenerated. Faith is a gift that comes out of rebirth. Only the elect will ever respond to the gospel in faith." 1 9. When you were called, it was a calling to be "justified" (v. 30). What does that mean? (Rom. 8:3-4)

10. In what sense have you already been "glorified"? (2 Cor. 3:18)

In what sense do you still await glorification? (2 Cor. 5:2-4) (🛄 1 Cor. 15:35-57)

## Read Romans 8:31–35.

- 11. Verse 31 says, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" As a matter of fact, there may well be many against us! So, what is the point of Paul's statement?
- 12. What is the strongest argument of God's being "for" you, no matter how baffling the trials that life may hold? (vv. 31–32)
- 13. In verse 26 we learned that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us. Who else intercedes for us? (v. 34; Heb. 7:24-24)

### Read Romans 8:36-39.

14. By quoting Psalm 44:22 in verse 36, what picture of normal Christian life does Paul paint?

How is that different from some contemporary views of the American Christian's life?

- 15. Paul has drawn up a list of things that will NOT separate you from God now that you belong to him. Add a few things of your own to the list.
- 16. What is your comfort in any trial you may face? (vv. 35a, 39b)

This study was adapted from a previous study on Romans, From Guilt to Glory, New Life Women's Bible Study, 2001-2002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Reformation Study Bible, copyright 2015; pg. 1650; Predestination (notes).