

Connect Group Notes

Sermon: What should I do when it Feels Like Everything's Against Me?

Reading: Romans 8:28-39

Date: 7th July 2024 (AM)

Introduction

Have you had any answers to prayer in the last week? Any opportunities to talk to someone about the Lord? Any encouragements from your Bible reading? Spend a few minutes sharing personal prayer requests and pray for one another.

Bible Study

[Leaders, no questions suite every small group. Please adapt them to your own group]

1. Why is it important to read Romans 8:28 in the context of the 'groans' of the previous verses?
2. Trying to resist getting sidetracked on detailed questions about predestination at this stage, how does Paul use predestination as an encouragement here?
3. According to verses 32-34, how can we be sure of God's willingness to forgive us?
4. Psalm 44 is a lament (read it if you have time) about how God seems to be distant. Why does Paul choose this Psalm to quote here?

Case Study

Jemma is a member of your homegroup. She's come to know Jesus in the last couple of years when she came to church following the sudden death of her husband soon after the birth of their third child.

One evening she shares that she's just found out she's losing her job. She doesn't have a lot of experience or qualifications and needs to work that will allow her to be at home with the children.

As you minister to her, is Romans 8:28 true for her? What does it mean in her situation? How can this truth be helpfully applied to her situation? What might you want to avoid?

Prayer

What is one lesson, challenge or encouragement you will take away from this passage? Share it with the rest of the group and pray about it together.