

# REDEMPTION CHURCH

## Romans 8 | Week 8: *The Promise*

### ROMANS 8:28-30

.....  
*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

.....  
 Despite our weaknesses, we think we know what to pray for –expecting/assuming that our requests will be for our good. But that isn't how it works. We don't know what to pray for, so the Spirit helps us; and, as He does, we can KNOW that it will play out for good.

There is **NOTHING** in your life that God isn't working out for good.

When we don't believe this, we... stress, try and fix things on our own, and make our efforts the 'agent for good' instead of His greatness.

Working towards the end of our study in Romans 8, this week we are digging into verses 28-30. Here, in verse 28, we find one, if not the, most famous verses in all of Romans 8. This text provides us with the absolute assuredness of what Paul has already talked about –that both our HOPE and our HELP are pointing towards something: "the good."

Whenever we feel like life is getting away from us, or that we have to figure out all of the ways to leverage every opportunity to make everything work or fit perfectly, this passage reminds us that we don't have to! Why? Because of the promise that is laid out for us here. What a promise, let's look at it.

### What must we see in this passage?

#### "And we know that..."

- The first thing we see here is that all of this is built on the idea that we can be assured of all that follows.
- The "we" is certainly a throwback to the previous "we" that was a reference to all believers –those who are not condemned. This "knowing" is part of the blessings of being in God's family. In this family, everything works together for your good.
- And what does this "we" do? It **knows**...A clear contrast to verse 26 which makes it very clear "...*that we don't know*..." So, there are things we don't know, and there is something that we are to know –both are working together here towards something.

#### "All things..."

Whatever it is, God is working it out for good! The good and the bad (evil and righteous, the expected and the unexpected, and the spiritual and unspiritual –Tamar's rape, Joseph's enslavement, and even the genocide of the Hebrew boys.

#### "Work together..."

"God is working out all things together for good..." A master weaver working out whatever happens for good.

- God is not dependent upon our whims.
- Whatever (act/work/tragedy) we give God, He can take ALL of it and work it out for good.

## EPHESIANS 1:11

*"In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will..."*

## ROMANS 8:29

*"For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."*

## HOW DO WE KNOW?

We can be confident this is true by looking at how it all began:

- Before conceived, He foreknew us ([Jer 1:5](#)).
- He predestined us
- He called us
- He justified us
- And He glorified us

This was true before we were born and remains true after we leave this earth. There is nothing beyond His control.

## DISCUSS

1. Our timeline and God's often don't align. What have you been struggling with or facing –still waiting to see the *good*? How do these verses equip and encourage you to keep going, sowing, praying, and trusting Him?

2. *To whom much is given, much is required.* What are some ways He has been pouring out His goodness in your life? What are some ways we can intentionally pour into others?

## Which of course begs the question...what is "good"?

**1) Good** is all that accomplishes God's purpose.

- In this case, *good* does not mean: easy, safe from loss, personal satisfaction, or earthly gain; but *good* from a cosmic (see [Revelation 21](#)) perspective.
- The world is broken, but God is on a grand plan to redeem it and submit it to his will. He is working all things toward that end.
- This helps as we look at the brokenness in this world, and trust that the God of the universe is working it toward His great end.

When discouraged by what we see and hopeless over the brokenness, we can know God is working all things together according to the counsel of His will. Remain hopeful, God knows what He is doing.

**2) Good** is to be like Christ and prepared for His glory. See v29 **What is His purpose?** *That many would be saved and that those who would be saved would be conformed to His image.*

- God is working all things out so that many would be saved and sanctified.
- *Good* doesn't always mean easy; in fact, we are often told that it is through difficulty that we are sanctified.
- God working this *thing* out means that, even in our difficulties, God can use it all to conform us to His image and bring people to salvation.
- *Conform*: think *hammer, chisel, burn*. Not pretty or easy, but the result is beautiful (*in His image*).
- Salvation first, then sanctification and support.
- God uses what we go through to help others through it. (See [2 Corinthians 1:3-7](#))

**3) Good** is God redeeming that which is broken in our lives.

- The original *good* God saw in the garden after Creation – *He saw it and it was good* –lovely, peaceful, beautiful, true.
- It is not saying that what happened was *good*, but that even *in the midst of the bad*, God can take **all things** and bring good –even when we face the worst of the worst.
- This doesn't negate pain or punishment. Sometimes we lose and it hurts, and sometimes we mess up and it costs. But even in all of that, God works it out.

Joseph was abused. God used that abuse and injustice to save Egypt and elevate Joseph to Prime Minister. David sinned. God used that sin to deliver us the wisest man ever and the building of the Temple. Tamar was raped. God used that baby to preserve His line. Jesus was crucified. God used His resurrection to change the fate of humanity.