

Gospel Power: In All Things God Works

Small group discussion guide for the sermon on Sunday, August 10.

Scripture:

Romans 8:28-30

Sermon Series: Gospel Power

Pastor Jim Bradford

Key Takeaways

- 1. God works for our good in all circumstances, but "good" primarily means conforming us to Christ's image.
- 2. Our challenges and sufferings are opportunities for God to shape us more like Jesus.
- 3. We need to intentionally shift our focus from our circumstances to God's active work in our lives.
- 4. Faith is not passive but involves actively trusting God and standing on His promises.

Discussion

- 1. How does Paul's use of the word 'good' in Romans 8:28 differ from common cultural understandings of what is good? How does this impact your view of God's work in your life?
- 2. When you look back at your life, how have you seen God work for good even in the more difficult seasons of life?
- 3. Discuss the analogy of God as an artist chiseling stone. How have you experienced God's "chiseling" in your life?
- 4. It's important that we move our focus from "all things" to "God works." What practical steps can you take to shift our focus in daily life?
- 5. What role does gratitude and worship play in shifting our focus from 'all things' to 'God works'? How can we cultivate this practice in our daily lives? How does the progression of being called, justified, and glorified (vs. 30) by God impact your understanding of your spiritual identity and purpose?
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Practical Applications

- 1. Each day this week, write down three ways you see God working in your life, especially in challenging situations.
- 2. When facing difficulties, practice saying out loud, "God is working in this situation for my good and to make me more like Christ."
- 3. Reflect on how recent challenges have shaped your character. What Christ-like qualities are developing in you?