



ROMANS 8:31-39

This guide will help you facilitate a study of the Bible passage with a focus on applying God's truth to our lives together. Look at the Big Idea and Takeaway for our CGs sections at the beginning of the guide to keep the discussion focused. For a deeper dive into the passage, refer to the [text notes](#) on the passage.

HEART CHECK: BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Our CG sessions are where we actively apply God's Word to our lives and urge each other to live out the Gospel in all areas of our lives. In preparing to facilitate a session, it can be tempting to view the CG session as an intellectual exercise where we transmit content and information to our members, instead of a session where we can love and serve those in our CG by edifying and strengthening their faith.

Here is our loving challenge to you: the spirit in which we prepare to lead the study is as important as the outcome of our preparation -- God is concerned with our hearts far more than the product we deliver. Before we seek for others to be encouraged and convicted by the text, let's first desire for ourselves to hear how God might be speaking and convicting us through His word.

For recommendations on how we can use these resources and facilitate the session prayerfully and thoughtfully, check out our ["How to Use the CG Resources"](#) note.

1. SERIES OVERVIEW

A. Goal of Series

Since the pandemic began, our church has added many new members and grown tremendously. However, due to the restrictions and various health reasons, many have never been to physical service or had much interaction or fellowship with the people of our church family, aside from digital means. Whilst it's been exciting to grow during this period, we do not want to assume that the most important value of our church – Gospel Centrality, has been grasped by all who are at Redemption Hill Church. Therefore, we want to use this series to lay these foundations very clearly in the church. Some goals include:

- Teaching about the gospel itself, and what it means to be part of a community where the gospel is at the heart of all that we do.
- Laying out the basics and foundations of our faith very clearly and explicitly.
- Romans 8: This chapter elaborates on God's victory over our sin. God's grace is given to us in the here and now (the power of the Spirit, the certainty of the hope we have, the knowledge that all things are working for our good), and that we can live as conquerors here despite our sufferings.
- Romans 12: The letter shifts from the indicatives (what God has done for us) to the imperatives (how we are to respond to God). This chapter elaborates on how we must respond to God's mercies and how we are to live is to offer up our bodies as living sacrifices. It also demonstrates the reality of living out God's grace and love is how a church culture shaped by the gospel looks like.

B. Summary

The love of God for us is seen most clearly and conclusively as He gave His Son to die for us and justified us. Since He has already done the most difficult and unfathomable, He will not withhold anything else from us and will certainly provide all things necessary for our ultimate good and wellbeing, both now and eternally. The love of Jesus is seen as He gave His own life to die for our sins, and He is now raised to God's right hand and is interceding for us. Therefore, no condemnation can be mounted against us, nor any suffering able to separate us from the love of God, since nothing in creation can overcome God. Rather, God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord preserves us from all condemnation and judgement and sees us through all the suffering in this life.

C. Big Idea (8:31-39)

God's love for us is seen most clearly and conclusively in the giving of Jesus for us. Therefore, there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God, since He has even given His Son for us, He will definitely see us through all sufferings, challenges, and oppositions in this life.

D. Fallen Condition Focus

- to judge God's love for us based on tangible things and current circumstances that we see with our human eyes, instead of looking to the clearest and most conclusive act on the Cross to know his love for us.
- To lean on our strength to get through trials and challenges and wrestling with sin in our life, instead of laying hold of what has been given to us in Jesus as our justification and our intercessor at God's right hand.
- Minimising, rejecting or forgetting the extent of God's love for us and looking for love and acceptance in other places that ultimately lead us to disobedience, faithlessness or an attitude of cynicism

Interpretation and Observation

(Read the text notes to have a comprehensive understanding and help for the answers for this section)

In v31, Paul says “what then shall we say to these things?” before he launches into the rest of the passage. What are the “these things” that he is referring to, that the rest of the passage is an implication of?

What is the connection and logic between “God did not spare His own Son,” and “graciously gives us all things”?

Who are God’s “elects”? Why does Paul address them as “God’s elect?”

According to Paul in v33-34, what has been achieved for us through the death of Jesus, and what blessing does His resurrection attain for us in our struggles?

Read v37-39. Pay attention to Paul’s language. How would you describe it? How does Paul try to convey the truth regarding the Roman Christians’ identity and God’s love?

Gospel Applications

A. Fallen condition:

What are some reasons that lead us to think that we can lose God’s love? What parts of v31-39 do we struggle to believe and why?

Consider v31-32. How do we tend to judge God’s love for us? In what ways do we struggle to live like v31-32 was true?

What is our attitude towards present “tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger, sword”? Why might we not have the same confidence and assurance that Paul talks about?

B. Personal Renewal:

The central point that Paul makes in this passage is that God is for us seen in the person and work of Jesus. The passage then goes on to list the multiple implications of this proof of love. Which parts particularly speak to our hearts about our struggles against guilt, suffering, sins, and failures in this life?

Jesus is interceding for us at God’s right hand at this moment, and only so because we are now His children by His death and resurrection for us. How should this reality inform the way we

approach God in our guilt and/or sufferings?

C. Shaping Church Culture:

In what ways does community serve to remind us of God's everlasting love for us in the gospel?
What are some of the ways it hinders that?

How does God "graciously giving us all things," shape the way we see ourselves as means of gospel encouragement towards each other in our communities?