



ROMANS CHAPTER 8 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- What is something that you want to do or accomplish one day that you are fairly confident will happen? How do you plan to do or accomplish it?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Romans 8:1-39)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Romans 8:1-11

- The word “therefore” that Paul uses in verse 1 is extremely important because it is coming from the argument in chapter 7 that Jesus was and is so much better than then anything the Law could do. The “therefore” sets up the declaration and proclamation that Paul presents throughout the rest of chapter 8. In other words, nothing and no one can negate the beautiful and profound realities that are found in Jesus.

- Paul says that there is “no condemnation” for those that are in Christ Jesus. Is this difficult for you to believe and embrace about yourself in any ways? Explain. Is this difficult for you to believe and embrace about your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ? Explain.
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

- Notice in verse 4 that Paul says that through Jesus Christ, “the righteous requirement of the law is fulfilled in us and not by us.” Why is this important for a Christian to understand?
 - This is important for a Christian to understand because there is absolutely no way we can be the person that God has designed us to be in and of ourselves. No amount of success or performance will achieve this for a Christian. It is only through the blood of Jesus Christ that we can be the individual that God has designed us to be.
 - What do you think it means and looks like to be desperate and needy for God? Do you think most Christians live in desperation and neediness for God? Why or why not?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

- Reread verse 11 according to The Message.
 - When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ’s!
 - What is absolutely mind blowing and inspiring about this?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

- How do you live from the Spirit and not from the flesh on a moment by moment and day by day basis?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Romans 8:12-17

- Consider the following in what it meant to be an adopted son in the Roman world.
 - In the Roman world of the first century AD an adopted son was a son deliberately chosen by his adoptive father to perpetuate his name and inherit his estate; he was no whit inferior in status to a son born in the ordinary course of nature.” Under Roman adoption, the life and standing of the adopted child changed completely. The adopted son lost all rights in his old family and gained all new rights in his new family; the old life of the adopted son was completely wiped out, with all debts being canceled, with nothing from his past counting against him anymore. (F.F. Bruce)
 - In light of this, why is what Jesus has done and does for us earth shattering. How do you go about living this out moment by moment and day by day?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Romans 8:18-30

- In this section of text, Paul is letting his readers know that while Jesus has declared those who are in Him as righteous, there is indeed much more to come as we are still human beings walking on the earth that God has created.
 - Would you describe yourself as a patient person? Why or why not?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
 - How do you wait in hope as a Christian? What do you think it looks like for Christians to wait in hope being grateful for what God has done but also eagerly anticipating what He will do?
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Romans 8:31-39

- Reread this passage to yourself but take some time to insert your own name wherever you see a personal pronoun. See below for an example.

□ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for your name, who can be against your name? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for your name, how will he not also with him graciously give your name all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for your name. Who shall separate your name from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things your name is more than conquerors through him who loved your name. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate your name from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- What are you most encouraged by in this text? What are you most challenged by in this text?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Romans chapter 9)

ROMANS CHAPTER 8 (STUDENT)

Romans 8:1-11

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