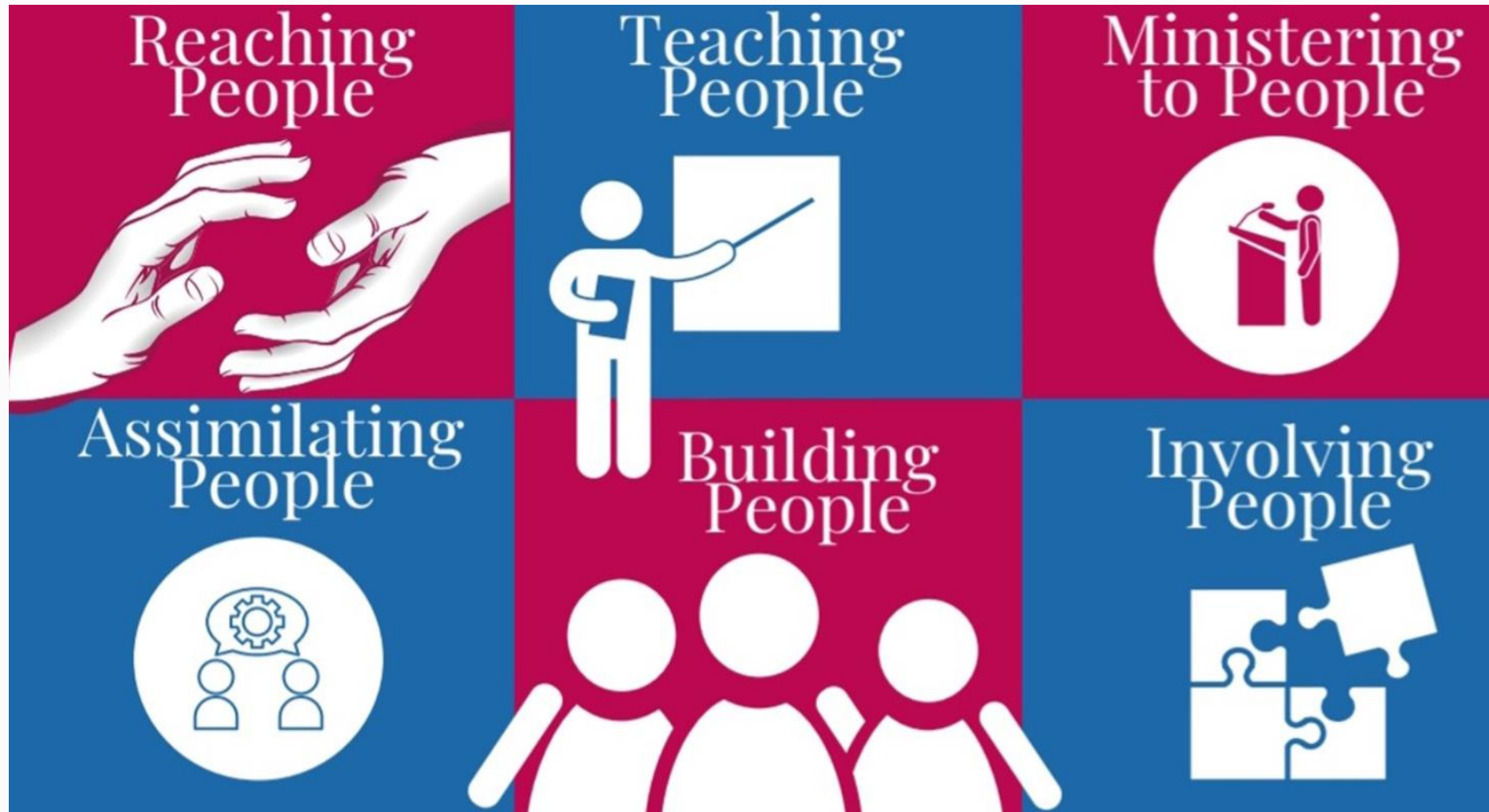




Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C
Sunday School

Lesson 10 August 9, 2026
SAFE IN GOD'S LOVE

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORE VALUES



SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. **Psalm 133:1**

School/Class: But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. **Hebrews 13:16**

Superintendent/Teacher: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. **2 Timothy 3:16**

School/Class: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. **Psalm 119:105**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. **Philippians 2:4**

School/Class: He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor. **Proverbs 22:9**

Superintendent/Teacher: Therefore he says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive and gave gifts to men." **Ephesians 4:8**

School/Class: As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **1 Peter 4:10**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

Superintendent/Teacher: For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:12**

School/Class: For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function. **Romans 12:4**

Superintendent/Teacher: By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. **John 13:35**

School/Class: For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **Gal. 5:13**

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESPONSIVE READING

ALL:

But grow in the grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

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- Bible Basis: Romans 8:28-39
- Bible Truth: Believers can never be separated from the love of Christ for humanity.
- Memory Verse: “What shall we then say to those things? If God be for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31)
- Lesson Aim: By the end of the lesson, we will: REVIEW the principal points Paul’s teaching on Jesus, from whose love we can never be separated by any turmoil or hardship; BELIEVE that Christ Jesus was God’s plan for humankind from the beginning of creation; and COMMUNICATE the joy and love of Christ with others..
- Background Scriptures: [Romans 8: 28-29; 1 John 4:7-16](#) – Read and incorporate the insights gained from the Background Scriptures into your study of the lesson.

Romans 8:28-39 KJV

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Romans 8:28-39 KJV

34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

Firstborn. In this passage, Paul refers to Jesus as the firstborn from the dead – first to die but rise up from the dead and never die again. Jesus, as forerunner, made the pathway for believers to pass from earth to heaven after death ([John 6:39, 44, 14:4-6](#)). The firstborn is considered extremely valuable and given specific responsibilities, but also special privileges, as God gave to Jesus ([John 5:20, 30](#)).

LIGHT ON THE WORD

God's elect. All the redeemed whom God by His sovereign initiative has predetermined to set His love and establish an intimate relationship with according to His good pleasure. The term is used in the Old Testament for Israel, and in the New Testament for those whom Christ will gather together at the end of the age to be with Him. Election is based on God's love and initiative, not on the virtues of the elected; it is purely based on God's choice.

LIFE NEED FOR TODAY'S LESSON:

AIM: We will explore ways that people are constantly tossed about by the trials and tribulations of life.

INTRODUCTION

The Truth About Heaven

The terms foreknowledge and predestination cause a great amount of controversy among Christians. When Paul penned these words, he was not at-tempting to win a theological argument. Christians during Paul's time faced extreme opposition. The letter may have been written before the extreme violence to Christians under Nero's reign (AD 54-68).

INTRODUCTION

The Truth About Heaven

Paul wanted to lay out truth, without deviation. He wanted the Christian congregation in Rome to know of the certainty of their future state in heaven. Any one of them at any time might face death. The apostle wanted to plant in their mind that those who love God are appointed from on high with a purpose. God has recognized and determined to harmoniously place them in the body of Christ ([Ephesians 4:15-16](#)).

INTRODUCTION

The Truth About Heaven

Paul simply breaks down the progression that leads to the ultimate honor of the saints. He magnifies God's supreme gift, His Son, to which all other gifts pale in comparison. He notes that none can condemn them for anything because Christ gave His life and He is their eternal security.

BIBLE LEARNING

AIM: We will learn that Paul states in Christ Jesus
there are safety and provisions during times of
tribulations.

I. GOD WORKING IT OUT

Romans 8:28-30

God is at work behind the scenes. He always used the Christians' experiences (even negative ones) to draw His children nearer to Him, build godly character, and fulfill His plans and purposes ([Romans 5:3-5](#)).

God knows absolutely everything about all individuals. Before creation, He knew each person's past, present, and future. His desire and goal is for each person to come to Him and be like Christ (Philippians 3:21). Those who trust Christ for their salvation become His brothers and sisters. Christ made it possible for Christians to be clean and pure in God's eyes and made ready for heaven. This group is showered with special advantages. They are given the title "God's elect," His called ones.

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I. GOD WORKING IT OUT

Romans 8:28-30

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Paul has been explaining how the Spirit of God helps and aids the believer in prayer. Now he transitions into the ultimate goal of the believer's life. This ultimate goal is the result of all things working together (Gk. *sunergeo*, **su-ner-GEH-oh**) which means to partner together in labor on a common enterprise or project. The partners in this common enterprise are all things. This encompasses the whole of life whether negative or positive. The whole of life works together for good (Gk. *agathos*, **ah-gah-THOS**) which means to have positive or desirable qualities for the thing specified. In this case the thing specified is God's purpose (Gk. *prothesis*, **prah-thay-SEES**). This word means to set forth and is also used for the shewbread of the tabernacle which was set forth on a dedicated table. The main sense is of planning a future course of action.

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I. GOD WORKING IT OUT

Romans 8:28-30

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Here Paul goes further in explaining and elaborating on the purpose of God in the believer's life. God foreknew (Gk. *proginosko*, **prahgi-NAH-skoh**). And predestined (Gk. *proorizo*, **prah-ah-REE-zoh**) the believers for this specific purpose. The two words are in conjunction with the purpose God had in mind for believers. To foreknow is to be acquainted with beforehand relative to those excluded from the choice. To be predestined is to be determined or arranged ahead of time. The believer's destiny is already known, ordered, and arranged ahead of time for the specific purpose of being conformed to the image of God's Son. The word "conform" (Gk. *summorphos*, **su-MOR-phos**) is to be made into similar essence or representative nature as something else. The end goal of the believer's existence is to be made like Christ ([1 John 3:2](#)). This will result in Christ being firstborn (Gk. *prototokos*, **pro-tah-TAH-kahs**) or preeminent among the believers and He will relate to them as brothers as they will share the same image (Gk. *eikon*, AYE-kon) or likeness.

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I. GOD WORKING IT OUT

Romans 8:28-30

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

These verses continue the foundation Paul lays for the believers' assurance of God's working all things together for their good. After he lays out the purpose and shows the end result of the foreknowledge and predestination of the Christian, he goes into the process God takes to get them there. They are predestined, as Paul talks about in verse 29. They are also called (Gk. *kaleo*, **kah-LEH-oh**) or divinely summoned. This call is not the same as the general invitation to obey the Gospel, but it is a divine command that will not fail to be put into effect. This sense of the word call can be seen in [Romans 4:17](#). If this were only a general command the argument of Paul concerning God's sovereign care in fulfilling His purpose in the life of the follower of Christ breaks down. It is the certainty of God's action that supports such a claim. Those who are called are also justified, and those who are justified are also glorified (Gk. *doxazo*, **dok-SAHD-zoh**) which means to be recognized and acknowledged for one's nature or attributes. The purpose of God the Father is to have the believer share in the glory of God the Son.

II. GOD SIDES WITH BELIEVERS

Romans 8:31-34

Paul here attempts to explain God's loving intentions concerning salvation, growth, and final destinations. God's children should respond by knowing nothing will come up against them that they will not be able to handle because God is powerful and He surrounds and carries them. Believers can go through this life with confidence.

What is our assurance of this? Jesus is the guarantee. God is not deciding whether things will work out for His children based on how well they kept the law or were good, but He declared all believers righteous when Christ died on the Cross. God provides everything needed to live the Christian life ([2 Peter 1:3-4](#)).

II. GOD SIDES WITH BELIEVERS

Romans 8:31-34

Only Jesus was given the privilege to sit on the right hand of God (Romans 8:34). He constantly speaks on the believer's behalf, because He faced earthly temptations ([Hebrews 2:18](#)). He pleads before the Father concerning His brothers and sisters. The conversation is always free of judgment. He will never point an accusing finger. He assists believers as well and in a world that opposes God.

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II. GOD SIDES WITH BELIEVERS

God's Sovereignty

Romans 8:31-34

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

As a result of this knowledge of divine sovereignty, Paul exults in the comfort of knowing God is for His people. He asks and answers his own question, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" The concept of God being for His people runs throughout the Old Testament ([Psalm 56:9, 105:12-15; Isaiah 54:17](#)). The uniqueness of Paul's words are that now through the lens of Christ even the hard times are seen as under the sovereign hand of God. Even trials and opposition are placed in our lives to conform us to the image of Christ. God is for us in all things whether good or bad. With that in mind Paul could say nothing and no one is a formidable foe.

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II. GOD SIDES WITH BELIEVERS

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Not only that, but God did not spare (Gk. *pheidomai*, **FAY-doh-my**) His own Son when it came to our good. The word spare means to refrain or keep from harm. The sense in this verse is that God did not hold Him back as a treasure. The same word is used in the Septuagint when Joseph tells his family to "regard not your stuff" or not to take their treasured belongings to Egypt ([Genesis 45:20](#)). God delivered (Gk. *paradidomi*, **pahrah-di-DOH-mee**) Him, which means to hand over or to give up. The word is often used for betrayal as in the betrayal of Jesus by Judas ([Mark 14:10](#)). It is also used for the Sanhedrin's giving Jesus over to Pilate ([Mark 15:1](#)) and for Pilate's giving of Jesus to the will of the Jews in Jerusalem ([Luke 23:25](#)) and to the Roman soldiers for crucifixion. In this sense, Paul is showing God was sovereignly superintending the whole of Jesus' death on the Cross. It was God who ordained that Jesus would be crucified for our good since before the creation of the world ([Revelation 13:8](#)).

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This understanding of God's gracious act in giving Jesus "for us all" is the ground by which Paul asks rhetorically, "How shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" The two words "freely give" (Gk. *charizomai*, **kah-REE-zoh-mye**) are actually one word in Greek. It means to give as a sign of one's goodwill toward another. Paul emphatically states that when we see what God has done in Christ, we can be assured that God has goodwill towards us.

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II. GOD SIDES WITH BELIEVERS

God's Sovereignty

Romans 8:31-34

33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

The argument continues as Paul lays out the reasons one may disbelieve God's goodwill toward His people. He proceeds with legal terminology and asks "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?" The phrase "lay anything to the charge" (Gk. *enkaleo*, **en-KAH-lay-oh**) means to accuse or file a formal legal complaint against someone. The answer for Paul is obviously no. It is God who "justifieth" (Gk. *dikaioo*, **di-KAI-ya-oh**) or who makes or pronounces one as righteous.

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There is no one to condemn (Gk. *katakrino*, **kah-tah-KREE-no**) the believer. The word condemn means to pronounce guilt for a crime and punishment for the crime in a legal context. Paul's answer to the question of "Who is he that condemneth?" is the work of Christ. This work is not limited to Jesus' death and resurrection but also continues as Jesus is at the right hand of God making intercession (Gk. *entynchano*, **en-tin-KAH-no**) for us. To make intercession or intercede is to petition an authority on behalf of someone else. It is Christ who speaks to God on behalf of the Christian. The believer's confidence that God hears him and he is no longer condemned is assured by the righteousness of Christ.

III. GOD LOVE IS INSEPARABLE

Romans 8:35-39

The New Testament church suffered and withstood horrible persecution. Paul painted a vivid image of the love of God. He wanted all to know that absolutely nothing can pull them apart from His love. Jews were persecuted by the empire, and both Jewish and Christian church members were attacked by the empire and some of the Jews. Many times they went without food and the necessities of life. Some faced torture and death. In spite of this, Paul declared believers to be winners; because of God's upholding power and love, they overcame ([1 John 4:4](#)).

III. GOD LOVE IS INSEPARABLE

Romans 8:35-39

The apostle offered confident comfort to frail human beings. No earthly or heavenly power can pull them away from God's compassion and grace – not even the final moments before death, one's daily irritations and problems, spiritual beings, supreme rulers, a mighty work or miracle, anything on this present earth, or anything that will have to be faced in the future, no present earthly philosophy or profound mystery or any-thing in creation.

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III. GOD LOVE IS INSEPARABLE

The Power of God's Love

Romans 8:35-39

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Next the question is asked of possible separation from the love of Christ. The different earthly woes of God's people are listed. Tribulation (Gk. *thlipsis*, **THLEEP-sees**) is the first of the problems listed. This word comes from *thlibo*, which means to press or squash and metaphorically has the sense of oppression or affliction. The next word is distress (Gk. *stenochoria*, **ste-no-ko-REE-ah**) which has the sense of being in constricted conditions. In some languages it can be expressed as the world falling down on someone. The third problem is persecution (Gk. *diogmos*, **dee-og-MAHS**) which is the systematic hunting down of believers for torture and execution in the effort to destroy the religion. This would be a real threat especially as Paul faced much persecution in his lifetime. Famine is the shortage of food resulting in acute hunger and death.

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The word for nakedness is *gumnotes* (Gk. **goom-NO-tess**) which in this context means insufficient clothing and not total exposure. Peril (Gk. *kindunos*, **keen-DOO-noss**) is to be in danger from any circumstance. Paul used this word in reference to his being in danger as an apostle ([2 Corinthians 11:26](#)). The believer also faces the reality of the sword (Gk. *machaira*, **mah-KHIE-rah**), which is the word for the small sword as opposed to a large one. This designation has caused some to question whether Paul has in mind the official "sword" of the state. However, this word is also used in [Romans 13:4](#) in connection with the authority of the state to punish.

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Here Paul may have been drawing up the image of official state execution. The general sense is that the believers face death at any moment. Paul then quotes from Psalm 44:22. This psalm was often quoted by second-century rabbis with martyrdom in view and Paul may have had this in view here. In contrast to this dismal fate, there is triumph and hope in verse 37. Although the Christian's life is similar to being a sheep prepared for the slaughter, Paul says this is not the whole of the story. Believers are more than conquerors through Christ. The KJV translates the Greek as "we are more than conquerors." The Greek is a single word, with the basic verb for conquering intensified by a prefix (*huper*, **hoo-PAIR**) that tells the church this will be no normal victory. It will be the ultimate victory (*hypernikao*, **hoo-perni-KAH-oh**). To think of ultimate victory as persecuted subjects only magnifies the power of God to reward the faithful.

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III. GOD LOVE IS INSEPARABLE

The Power of God's Love

Romans 8:35-39

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Paul is totally convinced. Nothing physical, social, or spiritual can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Paul speaks of items in the three categories which would have the capacity for separating us from God's love. Paul summarizes these, noting the opposites: life nor death, heights nor depths, things present or things to come with all of their abilities to frighten, paralyze, or make us turn away. None of these can separate us from the love of God.

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LIGHT ON THE WORD

Inseparable Love

At the beginning of the church age, the riches of God's glory laid a sure foundation. Paul leaves no stone unturned to express the inseparable love of God toward those in Christ.

BIBLE APPLICATION

AIM: We will discover ways that we can find safety and peace in Jesus.

BIBLE APPLICATION

You've probably heard the phrase "looking for love in all the wrong places."

People often get tangled up in sexual activities because they are seeking deep friendships and companionship. They hope their relationships will last.

However, the end result is often sexually transmitted diseases, broken hearts, or children growing up in homes without two parents. Some of them eventually find God and realize His love is what they were looking for all along.

STUDENT RESPONSES

AIM: We will note that as Christians study biblical doctrines of God's Word, they can learn more about His plan for their lives.

STUDENT RESPONSES

God rains His love down on each one of us – not just a gentle sprinkle but buckets full, a heavy shower. But some of us have sheltered ourselves from these drops of love under an umbrella. [Read 1 John 4:7-16](#) this week and ask God to help you take down your umbrella.

Prayer

Gracious God,

Your magnificent mercy, love, kindness, peace, joy, and great grace, are wonderful blessings that we appreciate and need in our lives. We share our gifts from You with others.

In Jesus' Name we pray.

Amen.

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Next Sunday
August 16, 2026
Lesson 11
“Living Under God’s Mercy”
Romans 9:6-18