



CONTEXT AND CLARIFICATION

1. Spiritual Growth in the Home/Righteousness in the Home (Questions 2-3)

As the church we should continually be pursuing righteousness in our homes. Whether we live by ourselves in an apartment or have multiple generations in one house, the home needs to be a place where righteousness reigns. One way to ensure this is by allowing your home to be a place of spiritual growth. If God continually desires us to become more and more Christ-like, then we should begin in the home. We value healthy relationships at South Peoria, but we know a healthy church only begins with a healthy home.

2. God Foreknew, Predestined, Called, Justified & Glorified/Our role, His timing (Question 4)

We need to understand that if God foreknew and predestined us, this had to have taken place before we were born. God then calls us, justifies us and lastly He will glorify us. Before someone becomes a Christian, God didn't just "know" they would be saved; he ordained it/planned it (predestined). This question is to help you and your life group get ready for Romans chapter 9 which has some even more difficult passages to digest.

3. Our Victory Song: Our Good, His Glory (Questions 5-7)

Romans 8:28 is often taken out of context. It is important to remember that it is a promise only to Christians. When we realize that our salvation is based only on what Christ has done and not what we have done, it is that much easier to rest in the fact that our salvation is secure in the One who holds us fast. Pretend for a moment that coming to Christ depended on you (that would mean when you fall, you separated yourself from God). Yet if the process of salvation is fully in God's hands, He is faithful to fulfill His promises and remains faithful. Remember that Romans 8:29-30 says:

²⁹ For **those** God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And **those** he predestined, he also called; **those** he called, he also justified; **those** he justified, he also glorified.

Notice how I highlighted "**those**." If you replace any of the "**those**" with the word "some," we would be unsure of our salvation. But, we are in God's hand and NOTHING can separate us! Amen!



LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Optional Ice Breaker: Share something that your friends do for you that makes you feel loved.

- 1) Read Romans 8:28-39. What was one of your biggest takeaways from the sermon?
- 2) Who in your life are you currently investing into spiritually? How is your home a place of spiritual growth?
- 3) What boundaries have you set in your home and family to ensure that your home is a place of righteousness and holiness?
- 4) Five words in Romans 8:29-30 that explain God's process in saving His people are *foreknew*, *predestined*, *called*, *justified* and *glorified*. What do these words say about God's role in saving someone, and on a timeline of eternity when do they each take place in a believer's life?
- 5) What is something that was considered wrong, evil, or bad in your life that God has used for your good? What is something currently in your life that you find it difficult to believe that God will use it for your good?
- 6) Knowing God conforms us to the image of His Son, how have you become more Christ-like this month? What areas of your life do you still need to become more Christ-like?
- 7) Romans 8:35-39 lists components that can threaten a believer's confidence in living as conqueror. What threatens your confidence to live as a conqueror?


FURTHER STUDY
Job 23:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

Psalms 27:1 (NIV)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalms 46:1-3 (NIV)

¹ God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, ³ though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

¹¹ The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

John 6:44 (NIV)

⁴⁴ No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.

**Acts 2:23 (NIV)**

²³ This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.

1 Corinthians 1:8-9 (NIV)

⁸ He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Philippians 1:6 (NIV)

⁶ Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

THEOLOGY SHOULD LEAD TO DOXOLOGY

Use these songs in your own personal quiet time as you reflect on Romans 8:28-39.

- **Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me** (*Hymn*)
- **Faith is the Victory** (*Hymn*)
- **He Will Hold Me Fast** (*Sovereign Grace Music*)
- **You're Grace Amazes Me** (*Christy Nockles*)
- **You Won't Let Go** (*Cory Asbury*)



“The phrase **we know** (in Romans 8:28) carries the meaning of know. Tragically, many Christians throughout history of the church, including many in our own day, refuse to believe that God guarantees the believer's eternal security. Such denial is tied to the belief that salvation is a cooperative effort between men and God, and although God will not fail on His side, man might—thus the sense of insecurity. Belief in salvation by a sovereign God alone, however, leads to the confidence that salvation is secure, because God, who alone is responsible, cannot fail.” —John MacArthur

