

### **Romans 8:18-25 English Standard Version (ESV)**

**18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. **19** For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. **20** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope **21** that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. **22** For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. **23** And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. **24** For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? **25** But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

### ***Discussion/Journal Questions***

Read Romans 8:18-25. How have you witnessed brokenness in your own life and in the world around you?

In the sermon, John mentioned six places of brokenness: Separation, Pain, Isolation, Hatred, Decay, and Injustice. Of these six, which areas of brokenness grabs your heart the most? How might God be calling you to work in these areas of brokenness to bring healing?

In our culture today, the areas of hatred and injustice are getting a lot of attention. How does sin lead to the brokenness of hatred and injustice? Where have you witnessed the brokenness of these areas in your life?

What is the church's responsibility to bring healing in these areas? What is your responsibility as an individual?

What would you say to those who consider bringing healing to broken areas a distraction from the church's mission?

Read James 1:19. How does this passage apply to our modern culture?

James says we should be quick to listen. What voices do you listen to (or read) most often? What media sources or individuals most shape your view of the world? What would it look like to add other voices to the mix, even ones you tend to disagree with?

Read James 4:17. In the sermon, John said, "It is not good enough to be not be racist. The black community needs us to be anti-racist." What is the difference between not being racist and being anti-racist? What does being anti-racist look like for you personally?

**Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**

**Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?**

**Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**