



THE THREAD

weaving Sunday's message through the week

Date: July 28, 2019

Passage: Romans 8:17–30

Theme: Suffering and a Good and All-Powerful God: Can They Co-exist?

God's Plan for our salvation includes bringing believers in Jesus Christ to glorification through their suffering (17).

How do we maintain hope in the midst of suffering?

1. Realize our present sufferings cannot possibly compare with our future glory (18–25).
 - a. All creation groans for the day we are glorified (19–22).
 - b. We groan as we wait for our future adoption (23–25).
 - c. Rely on the Spirit who helps us in our weakness (26–27).
 - d. The Spirit intercedes when we don't even know how to pray (26).
 - e. The Spirit intercedes in perfect alignment with God's plan for us (27).
 - f. Trust enduringly in God who will complete his plan to make us like our brother and Lord, Jesus Christ (28–30).
 - g. The Promise: For those that love God, all things work toward accomplishing his good goal for our lives (28).
 - h. The Reason we can trust: God is working out this good goal to bring us who love him to our glorification—Christlikeness (29–30).

Application Questions:

• Can you recall times when you or someone close to you has questioned God on why he has allowed suffering to affect you or them? Explain. Do you still wrestle with these questions?

• Why does it seem wrong to us for God allow suffering to come into the lives of his children (8:14–17)?

• What two evidences does Paul provide for us that demonstrate that our future glory greatly outweighs our present situation in vv. 18–25? Explain his rationale here.

• In what ways does the Spirit help in our suffering? How is this an encouragement? Is this something that we will be able to sense?

• Explain in your own words the promise of 8:28. What is meant by the following terms in this verse: *the ones who love God; all things; work together; good.*

• What encouragement do you take from vv. 29–30?

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