

**Romans 8:26-30**  
**For the week of March 26, 2023**

**Reflection**

1. What were some of the takeaways, for you, from Sunday's sermon?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Were there questions, comments, concerns...?

**Believers ought not to be unduly perturbed by the difficulties of life. Paul has pointed out that the frustrations and futility inherent in this life are not proof against the Christian hope. He now goes on to add to that. Just as the Spirit is with us as the firstfruits while we await the consummation (v. 23), so he is with us in the difficult business of prayer. It is easy to become discouraged in our praying, for we are conscious that we do it so badly. But here, too, we are not left to our own devices. The Spirit intercedes for us.<sup>1</sup>**

**Paul turns to the way the purpose of God is worked out in believers. They may be depressed at the harsh conditions of their lives, but they should bear in mind that through it all God is working out a great purpose. No matter what the circumstances that purpose will not be overthrown, and it culminates in final glory.<sup>2</sup>**

**Observation** (vs. 26-27)

3. What is Paul saying in these verses?

**Interpretation**

4. How do you define intercession?

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<sup>1</sup> Leon Morris, [\*The Epistle to the Romans\*](#), The Pillar New Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press, 1988), 326.

<sup>2</sup> Leon Morris, [\*The Epistle to the Romans\*](#), The Pillar New Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press, 1988), 330.

5. If God knows our needs and the Spirit is praying for us, why do we need to pray (Matthew 6:8)?
  
6. If God has determined His sovereign will, does prayer really change things? If so, how? If not, why pray?
  
7. What do the following verses say about the work of the Holy Spirit?

John 6:63 –

John 16:5-15 –

I Corinthians 6:19 –

**Application**

8. Describe an example of the Spirit doing in you what 8:26-27 illustrates. Is this promise a comfort to you? Why or why not?

**Observation** (vs. 28-30)

9. Summarize these verses in your own words.

**Interpretation**

10. Romans 8:28 is one of the most quoted verses to people in their time of struggle. How do you define Romans 8:28? In times of personal struggle, has it been a verse of comfort?

11. What does the apostle Peter teach us about the reality and place of suffering in the life of a Christian (1Peter 1:6-9, 3:14-17)?

**Application**

12. Reflect on how God has been working for your good in:

The good –

The bad –

Your failings –

13. Now, think about how each of those circumstances could harden you toward God, or lead you to rely on Him and become more Christ-like. What's more important: to change your circumstances or to change your heart attitude and stance toward them? How might you do this today?