

## **Packing Up**

**Series:** Moving Out of Victimhood (message 4) **Date:** April 25, 2021

**Know where you're moving into.**

**See your victory through the victor.**

- 1 Corinthians 15:42–43

**Reframe the pain.**

- Romans 8:18
- Romans 8:22–28
- Romans 5:1–5

**Clean up your mess as best as you can.**

- Luke 19:1–10
- Mark 8:36
- We must make right our wrongs.

**Shift your community to help.**

- Ruth 1:12–13
- Ruth 1:20–21
- Ruth 4:8–10
- Our community should move us to restoration.
- *Celebrate Recovery* Fridays 7pm

**We must seek God's justice.**

- Matthew 18:15–20
- We must trust in God's final justice in victory.

**Move into forgiveness.**

- Matthew 18:21–22

# sermon discussion

## RECAP THE SERMON

Spend a few minutes discussing the sermon from the weekend. Was there anything new that you learned, anything that confused you or anything that stood out?

## GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Share about a time when you willingly went through a painful experience for a greater purpose.
2. **Read Romans 8:22–23.** How does the pain of birthing a child compare to the joys of welcoming a child into a family? How does the picture of childbirth help us reframe our thoughts regarding the pain we might face when leaving victimhood?
3. All of us sin and at times hurt others. When have you sought to restore the damage done to victims of your sin? How did you approach that situation, and were there any lessons you learned that could be applied in future situations?
4. **Read Romans 8:26–27.** Have you ever been so offended or ashamed that you didn't have words to pray to God? How might the knowledge that the Spirit intercedes on our behalf help us deal with feelings of guilt, offence, or shame?
5. This week we identified several ways that Romans 8 can help us reframe our pain: *Believing in the Gospel we 1) Don't deny our pain, 2) Await a greater victory, 3) Know God is with us in our pain, 4) Know that our pain is not meaningless, 5) Know that God works pain together for a good purpose, 6) Experience God's love and adoption covering over our shame.* When has one or more of these helped you reframe your pain in the past? Which of these do you struggle to embrace most? Why do you think that is?
6. **Read Matthew 18:15-20.** Is there anyone who has sinned against you that you need to speak to directly? If you've talked to them before, do you need to include witnesses or release them to the justice of God? What might restoration of your relationship with them look like?
  - a. **NOTE:** *Before you share with your group, think about whether sharing someone's name is necessary, and also examine your motive. Is it to gossip or put that person down, or is it to seek restoration in your relationship?*
7. **Read Galatians 6:1.** Who is it in your life that can help you right the wrongs you have committed or help you face the pain of being victimized? What are some practical ways that we can manifest a spirit of gentleness as we help victims and perpetrators embrace the gospel and be restored?

## GOING FURTHER

**MEMORIZE:** *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.* **Romans 8:28**

If you already know Romans 8:28 work on Romans 8:18 or challenge yourself to memorize Romans 8:26-30. Try writing it down on a notecard and taping it to the back of your phone.

If you've been victimized, consider Pastor Greg's advice to see a Christian counselor such as Encouragers USA 951-900-4414 or attend *Celebrate Recovery* Fridays at 7PM in the Kidz Block.

If you'd like to learn more about forgiveness and reconciliation, listen to the series called *Versus* <https://obcc.sermonboss.com/m/87g0io>.