



Facing Suffering in Hope Romans 8:18-39

Michael Warren – July 17, 2022

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion.

Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

Take some time to look up and read: Romans 8:18-19

1. What big ideas does Paul work to communicate in these verses about: suffering, the future, creation, prayer, hope.

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life

2. Christians see the world as it is – physically decaying and spiritually infected with sin. But Christians do not need to be pessimistic, because they have hope for future glory. They look forward to the new heaven and new earth that God has promised.
 - Where do you most feel and experience the evil and suffering of creation? What seems hopeless?
 - Describe the new heaven and the new earth? What are you most looking forward to?
3. Tell about a situation in your life where you had to make a decision about what to do or how to respond and you truly didn't know God's will and plan for that situation? How did the Holy Spirit get you through it? Is there a question about God's will and plans that you are facing right now?
4. Who can you “walk with” and encourage toward the hope of Romans 8:18-39?
5. How would you explain Romans 8:28 to someone considering the Christian faith but struggling to understand the heart and ways of God?

Surrender: Responding to God's voice.

6. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We're here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!

Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, communitylife@changepointalaska.com

A primary resource in compiling these questions has been the *NIV Life Application Study Bible* (Zondervan, 1984)