

November 29

Romans 8:28 (NIV84) ²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Frank was determined to graduate at the top of his class. He knew he would need scholarships to attend college, and he knew being at the top would enhance his chances. He worked hard and did his best never to miss class. When he struggled, he sought help. He took challenging courses because he wanted to earn that top spot. His senior year found Frank in a tight race with two other students. They were all friends, but each one wanted that coveted title. As graduation approached, Frank waited for the final grades to come out. When they did, Frank was named the top student by a few hundredths of a point. Excited, he rushed home to tell his family the news. As he was showing him his grades, he noticed that one of his grades was entered incorrectly. The entered grade was a few points higher than the grade he actually earned. The difference could cost him the position for which he strived to reach for four years. When he told his father, Frank said, "I don't know what to do." His father looked at him and said, "You know."

Several times, Paul begins passages with the phrase, "We know." Paul does not explain his statements that follow because we should know the truth. As I was growing in the Lord, there were times when I also wondered, "What do I do?" I realize now that if we know Jesus, then we know what to do and say. Paul tells us that we should know that God is always at work in our lives. He is never idle. He is working for good because He is holy. Every good thing comes from Him. We should know that. We should know that this is true for those who love Him. If we love Him, we will obey all His commands. Finally, we know that He works for good for those who are called according to His purpose not ours. Paul's words let us know that this should be common knowledge for those who are in Christ Jesus. If we know Jesus, then we know.