Monuments (Week 1)

1 Samuel 7:12

Samuel then took a large stone and placed it between the towns of Mizpah and Jeshanah. He named it Ebenezer (which means "the stone of help"), for he said, "Up to this point the Lord has helped us!"

A Place of PAIN.

1 Samuel 2:24

You must stop, my sons! The reports I hear among the Lord's people are not good.

A Place of REVIVAL

1 Samuel 7:3

Then Samuel said to all the people of Israel, "If you want to return to the Lord with all your hearts, get rid of your foreign gods and your images of Ashtoreth. Turn your hearts to the Lord and obey him alone; then he will rescue you from the Philistines.".

A Place of VICTORY.

Romans 8:35-39

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death?

(As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") (Ps 44:22.)

No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love.

Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.

No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Talk it Over:

- 1. Share one of your favorite memories of a trip that you really enjoyed?
- 2. Is there a place or a moment that you can point to in your life where you experienced a moment of "REVIVAL" in you heart and life?
- 3. Read Romans 8:35-39 together. Share what stands out to you in the text in light of today's message. Why do you think Jesus would go into such detail in trying to make His point here?
- 4. Take some time to share where you are seeing God at work in your lives and in the world around you.
- 5. Pray for one another... How can we encourage and lift one another up this week?

Take a Deeper Look:

This section is dedicated to those who want to explore and study the Bible more deeply. Set aside some time with your Bible and a notebook and no distractions (you can use digital devices too - just put 'em in airplane mode for 30 minutes). Read - Think - Pray - write down your thoughts... then do something - GO BE THE CHURCH!

Read Romans 8

- This is a powerful chapter from the New Testament! Highlight, mar, or underline a few specific verses that you think are worth memorizing; to keep in the front of your mind and in your heart daily.
- How would you define the theme of the text in Romans 8:1-17? How would you explain this section to someone who had never read it before?
- Romans 8:18-30 seems to be pointing the believer toward faith and hope in a future provided by God. The principles of this section seem to be in conflict with the "right now pleasure" world we live in... If you were talking to a friend, how would you use the points of this passage to help them understand delayed gratification and living for more than the moment?

- Many people FEAR messing up and making God mad at them. What do you see the writer teaching us about this in Romans 8:35-39? Do you think you could explain this to someone living under "legalistic fear" of God?
- Pray that God would open your eyes and your heart this week to opportunities that might come your way to share what you've learned from this text.

Bible Reading Plans

Renew: Romans 8 With Timothy Keller
Romans 8 - Move From Condemned To Convinced
Book 1 of Samuel
Jesus in All of 1 Samuel - A Video Devotional

RightNow Media Suggestions

Look at The Book: The Greatest Chapter by John Piper