

How can this group support you in prayer this coming week?



From Here to Eternity
Romans 8:18-30
Danny Hall • March 10, 2013

The promise

The challenge

The path

To become a part of a relational environment (small group, mentoring, micro group, etc.), please contact Tony Catudal at 925-474-9410 or tcatudal@vcclive.org.



From Here to Eternity
Romans 8:18-30
Message-based Group Lesson

Overview

We began this series by recognizing that God has given us three wonderful benefits in our justification: peace with God, access into His grace, and the hope of the glory of God. As we have moved through this series we have seen how God in Christ has delivered us from the bondage of sin and the Law and made us His sons and daughters, beloved by Him, our Abba, Father. As wonderful as all this is, our story of redemption is a beautiful part of a much grander story, the story of God's redemption of the whole cosmos. While we rest in God's work in our lives right now, we look forward in hope to God's promised and assured future restoration of all things.

Engaging with each other

1. What signs of aging or wear and tear are you starting to experience in your body?
2. Do you tend to view the glass as half-full or half-empty? Why do you think you view things this way?

Engaging with the Bible

1. Read Romans 8:18. This verse is a thesis statement for the passage. Re-state this verse in your own words:
2. Read Romans 8:19-21. As we realize that our individual stories are part of God's grander story of the redemption and restoration of all creation, what are some of the things we can look forward to as creation is restored? Individually? For all of creation?

3. Read Romans 8:22-25. While we live in the tension of the "now" and "not yet", waiting for God's plan for the whole of creation to unfold, would you say you are waiting more out of a sense of despair or out of a sense of longing and hope? Why do you think this?
4. Read Romans 8:26-27. In what ways does the Holy Spirit help us live by faith in our day to day lives?
5. Read Romans 8:28-30. How does God use the things we encounter in this broken world as instruments in re-creating us in the image of His Son?

Engaging with our lives

1. Describe some of your "present sufferings." What hope does Paul say you have as a child of God?
2. How has having your hope placed in Christ helped you this week?
3. How can you reflect God's redemptive work and the character of Jesus by how you live? What implications does this have for the people and world around you?