

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



**The Greatest Power**  
Romans 8:31-39  
Sid Niemeyer • March 17, 2013

**The process of restoration** (Romans 5-8)

Assured hope	Sin subdued	Free from law	New identity “in Christ”	Life in the Spirit	Sustained by hope
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**If God is for us, who can be against us?** (Romans 8:31-34)

**Who can separate us from the love of God?** (Romans 8:35-39)

**The power of trusting in God’s love**

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.

*The deepest truth and the greatest power in the cosmos is God’s love.*



## **The Greatest Power**

Romans 8:31-39

Message-based Group Lesson

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### **Overview**

In Paul's climactic conclusion to Romans 5-8, he continues to drive home the incredible truths of the gospel; *the good news of our restoration*. The theme of God's love emerges as the central theme of the entire passage. Paul passionately makes the case that nothing in the world can separate believers from God's love. God's love is the greatest power in the world, and the key issue for us is to increasingly trust in His love. As we trust more, letting our roots go down deep into the soil of God's love (Ephesians 3:16-19), we appropriate more of our identity in Christ, which leads to living more freely and abundantly.

### **Engaging with each other**

1. The use of rhetorical questions can impact a person at an emotional level. For example, consider the statement "God is for us," as compared to Paul's statement "If God is for us, who can be against us?" How do these two statements impact you differently at an emotional level?
2. If you hear a truth through a story, does it have a deeper impact on you? If so, why? What does this imply about the role of emotions for integrating truth into our lives?

### **Engaging with the Bible**

1. Read Romans 8:31-34. Why are the elements of the process of restoration so vital? (Refer to the message outline.)
2. How is verse 32 a response to Paul's rhetorical question in the second half of verse 31?

3. Who would like to bring charges against you or condemn you? How does Paul answer our concerns about being accused and condemned? (verses 33 & 34)
4. Read Romans 8:35-37. Why does Paul, in this climactic celebratory closing, put such emphasis on our sufferings? How does the statement that "we are more than conquerors" shed light upon Paul's intentions?
5. Read Romans 8:38-39 aloud. While it's being read, identify which of the four pairings Paul lists resonates most deeply with you in terms of your security in God's love.

### **Engaging with our lives**

1. Read Ephesians 3:16-19. How do you make Christ "at home in your heart?" (NLT)
2. For a moment, think of your life as a tree. How is your fruit? What would you like to be different about your fruit? In what ways can the new root system of your identity in Christ change your fruit?
3. In what ways can distrust of God keep you from experiencing His love? How do worry and anxiety in your everyday life have their roots in not fully trusting God's love?