

8. What counsel would you give a Christian who has grown weary of waiting while suffering?

9. Think about your present status with God (5:1; 8:1) and the presence of the Spirit within as the "first fruits" of a coming harvest. Then think about your "hope in the glory of God" (5:2). What specific areas of your life can your hope and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit help you deal with patiently (8:25)? Specifically, how does your hope affect your attitude toward those circumstances?

Sermon Notes

"While We Wait"

Romans 8:18-27

December 8, 2019

Introduction

Series Reading Schedule

Oct 20 – Romans 5

Oct 27 – Romans 6

Nov 3 – Romans 6

Nov 10 – Romans 7

Nov 17 – Romans 8:1-13

Nov 24 – Romans 8:14-17

Dec 1 (Break from series)

Dec 8 – Romans 8:18-27

Dec 15 – Romans 8:28-39

Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

Cory & Brooke Passehl - YWAM Hawaii

Pray as the Passehl's prepare to make a month-long trip as a family to South East Asia. Pray for good health as they travel, for the additional \$10K needed, and for prepared hearts as they share in ministry.

Conclusion

Benediction: Romans 8:16-17

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 12-08-19

Questions adapted from James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, p. 230-1; Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., Life Change Series: Romans, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1987, p. 123-126.

Getting Started:

1. What type of sacrifices do people commonly make for the sake of a future reward?

Digging Deeper:

Read Romans 8:16-27.

2. What are some of the sufferings a Christian can experience? Does all suffering constitute "suffering with Christ" (8:17)? Why or why not? How does suffering affect our relationship with God? Why is sharing Christ's sufferings worth the pain (8:17-18)?
3. The creation is waiting, frustrated but with hope, for something to happen. What is it waiting for (8:19-22)?
4. In one sense, we have already been adopted as God's children and heirs (8:15-16), but in another sense, our adoption has not been fulfilled. The Spirit is the pledge,

guarantee, and down payment of our adoption (8:15-16, 23). What will happen when our adoption is fully realized (8:11, 23)? (Optional: See 1 Corinthians 15:35-44; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10, and Philippians 3:20-21).

5. Why is it significant that our *bodies*, not just our disembodied souls or spirits, will be redeemed?
6. Recall the meaning of *hope*: "not a mood of wishfulness, but rather something that we expect with certainty" (Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., Life Change Series: Romans, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1987, p. 77). Why do you think God saved us "in this hope," rather than giving us our full inheritance of resurrection glory immediately (8:24-25)? Consider what waiting for hope accomplishes in us (see Romans 5:2, 4-5).
7. In what circumstances do Christians find it difficult to know how to pray according to God's will? How is it a help to know that the Spirit intercedes perfectly at that time?