

LIFEGROUP NOTES: ROMANS 8:31-34

As ever, please use (or discard!) these ideas as is most suitable for your group. Don't feel you have to use everything.

Read Romans 8:31-34

1. See v.31: Have you ever felt like God is NOT for you? Why? Where in your life do you most feel “up against it” at the moment? What does Paul mean when he says that God is “for” us – and what difference does it make?
2. See v.32: How do we know that God is for us? How does the cross assure us that God will give us everything else we need to fulfil His purposes? Try to apply this to the circumstances of your daily life, e.g., marriage, singleness, parenting, work, health ... What difference would it make if you preach this gospel to yourself: *“If God gave me His Son, He will not abandon me in this situation?”*
3. See vv.33-34: What situations might cause you to feel accused or condemned? Why? How has God provided for our needs by Jesus death ... and resurrection ... and His presence at God's right hand ... and His present intercession for us? How does each of these elements add to our security in God's love?
4. You are out with two Christian friends who are each having a tough time. “Everything is against me!” says one. “I feel such a failure!” says the other. Where do you think they are fixing their eyes at the moment? What is the gospel medicine for their ills? How would you (sensitively!) counsel them from Romans 8:31-34?
5. How would you need to change your current ways of thinking in order to develop the kind of gospel confidence and joy that oozes out of Ro 8:31-34? Think of one step you could take to move you in this direction ... share it with the group, and commit to it!

Responding in Prayer

- Thank God for what He has done for us in Christ, and that we are constantly held in His love. Pray the message of Ro 8:31-34 over any situations you are struggling with at present.

Eddie Larkman, Sept 2017