

Go Deep

Romans 8:28-30

1. *Read 8:28-30.* How do these verses relate to 8:18-27?
2. *Read 8:28* in NIV, ESV, NASB. What differences do you see? Do those differences make the meaning different?
3. What are some ways that people misinterpret or misuse 8:28? What does 8:28 really mean?
4. Why does Paul say, “And we know”? (see 8:26 for a clue). What *do* we know and what *don't* we know?
5. Why does Paul say, “to those who love God” rather than “to those who believe in God”? What are some signs that a person loves God? How does love for God begin?
6. What is the good that God is working all things together for? How would you describe your current life situation and how might God be using it for good?
7. John Newton said, “*Everything is necessary that God sends; nothing can be necessary that he withholds.*” What does this mean? How should this truth affect our attitude towards life’s circumstances?
8. *Read 8:29.* What does “foreknow” mean here? Doesn’t God “foreknow” everyone? When did he “foreknow” us?
9. Look up all the other places the NT uses the Greek word for “predestine” (Acts 4:27-28; 1 Cor 2:7-8; Eph 1:4-5, 11). What does the word mean in context and what does it have to do with God’s plan? How do believers fit in?
10. If we are predestined to be “conformed to the image of Christ,” do we even need to try to live like Christ now?
11. What are some ways that you long to be like Christ?
12. *Read 8:30.* Describe God’s call? When were we justified? When we will be glorified and why is the word in the past tense? If God does all this, what is our job?