



Oakwood

CHURCH

April 17 Discussion Questions

“Gospel Fearless”

Romans 8:31-39

PREVIEW

The **Dangers** of this world:

- Physical: Persecution, suffering, (demonic) oppression, death
- Spiritual: Accusation, condemnation, separation

If you choose to primarily pursue **Physical** safety and comfort you will forfeit the **Spiritual** security and eternal blessing that is found in Christ.

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?” Mark 8:34-36

The **Protection** we have in Christ:

- **Reconciliation** - Jesus' death fully satisfies the just wrath of God, so the believer is no longer God's enemy (Rom. 5:10) but has become God's child (Rom. 8:14-16); God on our side “for us” v. 31; v. 32 “gave him up”
- **Justification** - Faith in Jesus connects the believer with the infinite grace of God (Eph. 2:8-9) to not only forgive all of your sins (Ps. 103:3,12) but to give you credit for the perfect righteousness of Christ (Rom. 4:5) “God who justifies” v. 33 no charge, no condemnation v. 34
- **Representation** - Jesus serves as personal high priest and advocate (Heb. 4:15-16) for every believer. raised, right hand, interceding v. 34

The **Provision** we have in Christ:

- **Affection** - As an adopted child of God, the believer enjoys the same status as Jesus to whom the Father said, “you are my beloved son, with you I am well pleased” (Mark 1:11); no separation from his love v. 35-39 conquer through him who loved us;
- **Abundance** - Union with Jesus (Rom. 6:4-6) gives the believer “every spiritual blessing” in Him (Eph. 1:3): life, power, the Holy Spirit and the love, joy, peace (Gal. 5:22-23) He brings with Him. everything we need v. 32 all things

So fear **Nothing** and use **Everything** you have for Jesus.

“Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on Earth.” John Wesley

OPEN IT

1. Since our topic today is “Gospel Fearless,” what is something you are afraid of, whether it be reasonable or unreasonable?

PRAY - Pray for God’s blessing on your conversation - to illuminate your minds, transform your hearts, and draw you closer together as a group.

READ IT — Romans 8:31-39

EXPLORE IT

2. What questions does Paul raise in this section?
3. What things does Paul name that attempt to separate us from the love of Christ? Flesh these out with examples from modern-day America.
4. What does Paul say we are in relation to these forces of separation?

GET IT

5. How is Paul making his argument in v.32 for God freely giving us all things? What are the “all things” he may have in mind?
6. What good is God’s justification of us against the charges made against us by others? In what real life scenarios has God’s justification been comforting for you?
7. What is Jesus’ current role in the life of the believer? (see v.34) What is the purpose of Jesus’ current ministry of intercession?
8. How do these different forces of separation in v.35 attempt to separate us from God? What lies are they telling us? What negative emotions are they trying to work in their favor?

9. What is the connection between being “more than conquerors” and “never being separated from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord?”

APPLY IT

10. How does this passage encourage you today?
11. In what area of life do you want to experience being “more than a conqueror through Christ?”
12. What unique struggles or stresses are you facing in your life right now? In what way are these fighting to separate you from the love of Christ?

PRAY IT

- Personal Request: Praise the Lord for His everlasting love shown to us through the death and resurrection of Christ!
- Ministry: Pray for **Craig and Carolyn Clendenin** as Craig serves on *Wycliffe Bible Translators' Asia Leadership Team* to bring the Gospel to some of the most closed countries in the world.