

Home Group study: week beginning 19th September 2021

STAY POSITIVE: STAY HOPEFUL

PASSAGE ROMANS 8 1-5, 14-17, 18-25

LAUNCH

What items in the news are the most depressing right now and why?

What is the saddest book or film that you have read/watched? What made it so depressing? Get the group to vote on which is the winner from the description that you give?

What is the happiest film you have watched recently and why?

DISCOVERY and UNDERSTANDING

As you read through these Romans 8 scriptures, can you identify the different key areas in which we should stay optimistic as Christians?

Which one would you say is your favourite and why?

The reasons for optimism build on each other like building blocks. The first is justification by faith that leads to life in the Spirit.

What is the stage-by-stage process that leads to there being no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus? (verse 1)

Justification (verse 1) leads to sanctification (verse 2). How does the 'law of the Spirit' set us free from the 'law of sin and death'. How would you say you have experienced this process occurring in your own lives?

What are some of the essential ways in which you can feed the Spirit and suppress the flesh? In what areas is God calling you to do this?

Justification leads to adoption (verse 14) what are some of the important areas in which we live as sons and daughters rather than slaves in the kingdom of God? In what ways can we be tempted to return to a slave type existence?

In addition to being sons we are also heirs. From your understanding of this passage, what do we stand to inherit?

Verse 18 suggests that our present sufferings do not compare to 'the glory that will be revealed in us'. What is the glory that will be revealed? Do you find this comparison encouraging and if so, why?

APPLICATION

Spend time thanking God for all the wonderful things he has provided for us through Christ Jesus

Pray for those who in the world have everything but, in the Spirit, and in eternity have nothing