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# Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

## **Introduction**

Imagine the soundtracks playing in your mind every day—often a mixture of doubts and accusations. Romans 8 offers a powerful shift: a new soundtrack from God where there is no accusation, no condemnation, and no separation from His love. As we explore this passage, consider how these truths can transform your daily life. Reflect on moments when you've felt accused or condemned and how acknowledging God's unwavering love might change your response. Let's dive into practical ways to replace old soundtracks with the truth of God's Word.

## **Disciple Measure**

**Spirit-led Follower:** What voices are competing with God's voice in your life? How can you drown out the noise and focus on God's voice more?

#### Notes:

# **Discussion Questions**

#### Three Nevers In The Christian Life

#### **HIGHLIGHT**

Have someone read aloud...

Romans 8:31-39

#### **EXPLAIN**

Discuss the following questions...

**Opening Question:** What's a movie soundtrack that has deeply impacted you? How did it enhance your experience of the film?

- 1. How does Paul address the concept of accusation, and what reassurance does it offer to believers about their relationship with God?
- 2. How does Romans 8 highlight Jesus' intercession for believers, and what does this reveal about His role in our lives today?

Have someone read <u>Zechariah 3:1</u>-5 and Isaiah 49:15-16..

- 3. In what way do Zechariah 3 and Isaiah 49 illustrate the struggle against Satan's accusations and how Christ cares for us? How does this apply to us today?
- 4. How does Paul explain the inseparable nature of God's love for us, and why is this concept crucial for a believer's daily life?
- 5. What are the implications of the statement "Your practice in life will never ruin your position in Christ," and how does that relate to sin, grace, and repentance?

# Application Questions Notes:

#### **APPLY**

Discuss the following questions...

- 1. In moments when negative self-talk or feelings of worthlessness arise, how can we practically replace these "soundtracks" with the truths found in Romans 8?
- 2. How can we help others in our community understand and experience the security of God's unwavering love, particularly those who feel isolated or forgotten?
- 3. How can you intentionally cultivate a daily practice embracing what God has to say about you instead of the enemy?

#### **RESPOND**

Force for Good: Are you affirming the truth of God's love for those around you or feeding the accusations of the enemy? How can you intentionally affirm God's love for others this

week? If you would like to find out more about how you can encourage and disciple those behind bars, click here or scan the OR code.



### **Prayer:**

Thank God for His unwavering love and ask for His help in internalizing the truths from Romans 8. Pray for each group member to experience freedom from accusation, condemnation, and fear of separation from God's love.

# **Questions for Families**

Here are some questions you can discuss with the whole family.

#### Romans 8:31-39

## What does this passage tell us about how much God loves us?

For younger children, discuss how nothing can stop God from loving us, like how much their parents love them no matter what. For older kids, explore the idea that God's love is constant and doesn't depend on our actions.

### How does this passage say God protects us from bad things?

Young children can talk about how God is always there to help us, even when we feel scared. With older kids, discuss how God's protection does not always mean avoiding hardship but means He's always with us through everything.

## What can we do when we feel worried or sad because of things we think we did wrong?

Encourage younger children to pray to God and remember He forgives us. With older children, discuss the importance of trusting in God's forgiveness and letting that guide us to make better choices in the future.

# NT 260

### **WEEK: 24**

- Romans 9
- Romans 10
- Romans 11
- Romans 12
- Romans 13

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 6:1-2

# Resources

#### Resources to Listen to

# The BEMA Discipleship Podcast:

Romans - The Struggle



Join Marty Solomon as he dives into <u>Romans</u> Chapters 7 and 8. (34 min)

### **Resources to Watch**

#### Bible Project Guide - Romans



The Bible Project gives an overview of <u>Romans</u> <u>chapters 5-16</u>.

### Bible Project Guide - Romans



The Bible Project gives an in-depth guide through Romans with multiple resources and videos.

# **Life Group Resources**

We have a variety of resources and are continually adding new ones. Some of our resources include group launch guides, on-demand training modules, and curriculum resources. To request a resource, reach out to us at groups@longhollow.com.

## **D-Group Resources**

If you or someone you know would like to start a D-group, we have everything you need, including reading plans, journals, and a launch guide to walk you through the first four meetings.





# Commentary

#### Notes:

#### What's Going On?

Romans 8:31-39 is part of a letter where Paul carefully lays out what faith in Jesus means. This section is like a joyful declaration of what believers have because of Jesus. Before these verses, Paul talks about struggles and hope, and here he reaches a climax in his message. Paul is saying that if God is on our side, it doesn't matter who is against us. He assures readers that no charge or accusation made against them will stand because God has declared them right with Him.

This is written in a way that sounds like a courtroom scene, with God as the judge who is for us, not against us. He continues by showing that nothing can separate us from God's love—not trouble, hard times, or even dangerous situations. It's all about giving believers confidence in the unstoppable, unchangeable love of God. Paul wants to change the inner soundtrack, so instead of feeling fearful or guilty, Christians feel loved and secure. In the sermon, Paul's message is highlighted to show that God's love is constant, and nothing—not even our failures—can separate us from it. This encouragement was vital for the early Christians in Rome and remains powerful for believers today.



### A Bit of Background

the known world

The Apostle Paul wrote the letter to the Romans around 57 AD while he was in Corinth. The Roman church was a mix of Jewish and Gentile Christians. This diversity led to some disagreements and misunderstandings about faith and the ways to practice it. Paul wanted to ensure that all believers in Rome understood the good news about Jesus fully. He hadn't visited the Roman church at the time the letter was written, but he planned to, hoping their support would help him carry the message of Jesus further west to Spain. Rome was the heart of the Roman Empire, making its church very important because whatever happened there affected much of

The Christians there faced challenges, including persecution and tension within the growing church. This backdrop helps us appreciate how Paul's letter aimed to unify the believers by reminding them of God's love and salvation for everyone who believes, no matter their background. Paul emphasized that God's love and power are greater than the struggles they faced, a reassurance needed by a church located in the empire's bustling and sometimes harsh capital.

Today's highlighted passage and other related passages

Notes:

Birth of Crucification End of Christ and Resurection Revelation

# Sermon Notes

#### **Romans 8:31-39 CSB**

What, then, are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He did not even spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. How will he not also with him grant us everything? Who can bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies. Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the one who died, but even more, has been raised; he also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us. Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: Because of you we are being put to death all day long; we are counted as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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# Living out our God-given calling as we follow Jesus and make disciples every day.

daily, anchoring their lives to God's Word and obediently following the Holy Spirit where He leads.

A disciple who is always looking for ways to care for others and meet their needs. This is a practical way to be present in the lives of those around us.

every opportunity to help people take their next step ::

closer to Jesus. This is someone who is constantly looking
for opportunities to have Gospel conversations and speak
truth into someone's life.

When a disciple lives out their Godgiven calling, they naturally become a force for good ::
where they live, work, and play. This type of person is :
looking for opportunities to meet needs, heal brokenness,
and bring tangible hope to the people in their life and in
their community.

