

# The Good God Who Works Things Together For Good

Romans 8:28-30

## MAIN IDEAS

1. God promises His good work
  - a. To those who love God and are called according to His purposes
2. God is working towards the good through:
  - a. Foreknowledge
  - b. Predestination
  - c. Conformity
  - d. Justification
  - e. Glorification

According to Romans 8:28, to whom does God promise He will work all things together for good? Why is this an important distinction?

What does Romans 8:28 state about the good God will do? Is it all good, all the time? Or is a different promise being made?

Romans 8:29-30 names five key ways God is working all things together for good (see a-e above). Define each one. Discuss the importance each of these play in God working all things together for good. Why are all important collectively and not just one?

## PERSONAL RESPONSE

Consider the role the five elements found in Romans 8:29-30 have played in your life:

**Foreknowledge**: Consider scripture such as Psalm 139:13-16. What reassurances can this provide in regards to the plans God has specifically for you?

**Predestination**: According to Romans 8:29, what did God predestine you for? What implications does this have for those who follow God?

**Conformity:** To what/whom does God want you to be conformed to? What does this currently look like in your life? Are you conforming to what God desires you to, or are there changes you need to make?

**Justification:** Consider scripture such as Romans 5:1-11 and Ephesians 2:1-10. How are we justified? What are we called to do with this justification?

**Glorification:** Where does glorification come from? Consider scripture such as 2 Corinthians 3:7-18. How does this tie into “working together for good?”

Ask yourself honestly, what has God working all things together for good meant to you? Do you believe that following God means only good things should happen in your life? Or do you believe He is good even when you can't see it?

Reflect on how your beliefs play out in your life. What areas have you been able to see His goodness? What areas do you need to practice seeing His goodness?

Pray:

- Praise God that He is good, regardless of circumstances.
- Thank Him for the specific ways He has been good, even in hard seasons.
- Ask Him for eyes to see His continued goodness and for His strength and leading to live out Romans 8:28-30 in a way that is holy and honoring to Him.

## REPRODUCE

When people go through difficult times, it can be easy to share Romans 8:28 with the best of intentions, yet the way in which we sometimes share this verse might unintentionally minimize the pain they are experiencing. How could you comfort those going through difficult times in light of the true meaning of Romans 8:28-30?

How can we support one another in taking part in the five elements of Romans 8:29-30? What about in practicing the faith of believing in the unseen, specifically the unseen goodness of God?

How can we encourage one another to walk in the way the Lord has called us in conforming to the image of His Son? Consider additional scripture such as Ephesians 4.

## KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Romans 8:28-30

Additional verses from the study:

- Psalm 139:13-16
- Romans 5:1-11
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- 2 Corinthians 3:7-18
- Ephesians 4