GOOD NEWS FOR THE DOUBTING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

ROMANS 8:28-30

1	Romans 8:28 tells us that God weaves everything together for good for his children. This theological concept is called God's Providence. How is providence different from fate? Contrast the two concepts.
	How does remembering that your world is governed by God's providence rather than fate help you in your current situation? Think of specific examples you are facing right now.
	Spend a moment in prayer as a group that God's word would give you confidence to face the circumstances of your life in assurance of His goodness and control and purpose.
2	Should Christians adopt a pollyanic or sentimentally optismistic view of the difficult things of life? If Romans 8:28 is true, are all bad thing really all good?
	Read the story of Jesus and Lazarus in John 11:32-44. What do we learn from Jesus' response to the evil of Lazarus' death?
	How does your own response to difficulty need to change as a result of looking at Jesus'?
3	God can work all things together for good, because He is good. Take a moment to meditate on the goodness of God.
	What do we learn about the depth and reach of God's goodness from the following passages in Psalms? Psalm 31:19, 107:1, 119:68, 145:9.
	How does the goodness of God impact us? Psalm 34:8, 2 Peter 1:3, Romans 2:4
	♥ How have you seen God's goodness at work in your life this week? Stop to praise God that "He is good and does good." (Psalm 119:68)

4	The Apostle Paul can offer the words of Romans 8:28-30 with authenticity, because he had lived them the truthes of these verses? Read the following passages and note how this truth was true in Paul's life: 2 G 3:10-11		
5	How does Romans 8:29 realign our thinking about the good that God is working together in our lives?		
	Assess your own life in contrast to the likeness of Jesus. Consider His love, nobility, truth, wisdom, streng attributes. What do you think is most lacking in your own life right now?	th, goodness, joy, kindness and other	
	♥ How is God using a circumstance in your life to conform you more to that likeness?		
6	6 Reflect on how God has been working in your life for your good in the following areas:		
		The Ugly (Your failings)	
	Now, think about how each of those circumstances could harden you toward God, or lead you to rely or	n Him and become more Christ-like.	
	What ways are you seeking to change your circumstances instead of changing your heart's attitude toward them?	PRAYER REQUESTS	
7	Romans 8:29a and 30 show us our salvation story from God's perspective. Who is the main subject of all the verbs in these verses? Paul's focus in Romans 8:28-30 is on God's unshakable purpose to conform sinners to the likeness of Jesus Christ, and He will do whatever it takes to accomplish that purpose.		
	What should our response be to that truth? Use the quote below to guide your discussion.		
	Consider the following quote: "Ultimately, the proof of a right approach to these doctrines is that you find in them the greatest urge to holiness and sanctification. If your belief of these doctrines has not driven you to holiness you are in a dangerous condition you are misusing them to say: Well, it is all right with me, it matters not therefore what I do. I am saved No one can truly see these doctrines without being humbled." (Romans Chapter 8: 17-39, pages 202-203)		