

Facilitator:

1. Open with Prayer
2. Welcome any newcomers
3. Try to keep your discussion to an hour at the most.
4. Refer to the Romans 8 “one sheet” if you have further questions.

Facilitator: Encourage your members to **BRING THEIR BIBLES** and use them during Connect Group.

CONNECT Group study questions for May 27, 2018

Title: Assurance of Salvation—Romans 8:31-39

Read: Romans 8:31-39

Question: How does God’s sovereignty in salvation (Ed West’s sermon from last week) make the assurance of our salvation possible? How does Paul connect the two in Romans 8:31-39?

Question: Who are the enemies of God’s people? Name them. How has God defeated his enemies? Be specific.

Facilitators: Peppy names many of these in his sermon: sin, death, the devil, etc. These were all defeated by the death and resurrection of Jesus. Get your group to focus on how.

Question: When Paul says that God has “freely provided for us all things” (v.33), what does he mean? What is included in “all things” in this context?

Question: In v.33 Paul tells us that we can judge God’s intentions towards us by looking at the Cross. What does the Cross teach us about how God feels about us and about what God intends for us?

Question: What does it mean to be “justified,” “elect,” and “advocated for,” and how do those words assure us that our salvation is eternally secure?

Facilitators: Don’t let the discussion on election derail the conversation. Keep turning your group back to the actual text of Romans 8 and focus on eternal security.

Question: What does it mean that Christ loves us, and how does his love assure us that our salvation is eternally secure regardless of our circumstances, even failures of our own faith?

Facilitators: Encourage your group to go beyond the obvious Sunday School answer here. Consider God’s desire to see His creation be restored and renewed in his love. Also consider God’s unconditional love for us despite our sin and open rebellion.

Questions: Paul is convinced that those who are convinced of the security of their salvation will live more godly, more faithful, and more missional lives. That’s why he wrote Romans 8! How does that work? How does our security lead to our maturity? Can you think of any personal examples in your own life where this is true? Be specific and be practical in your answers.