

# Week 8: Assurance in Christ      Romans 8:31-39

Note: For this study you'll need to **print out the passage** for your group members

<b>Pray</b> for our mission partners and your time in the word	
<b>Context</b>	
1. Read Romans 8:31. What might Paul have in mind when he says “these things”? Look over the immediate context for some ideas.	<i>Prompts if needed</i>
<b>Notice</b>	
Read the Passage as a <b>group</b>	
2. Re-read the passage on your <b>own</b> and <b>mark</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anything you notice about the structure or logic of the passage</li> <li>Key words or ideas</li> <li>Questions you have</li> </ol>	
3. Share with a partner and together discuss: <p>What do you notice about the structure of this passage? How is it different to the passages we've looked at so far?</p>	
Discuss as a group.	You could list the rhetorical questions and summarise their answers/responses.
<b>Clarify</b>	
4. How are these questions different to one another? What do they each add?	<b>Prompts if needed</b> What concerns or doubts does each question address? How do Paul's words address the concern?  [You may want to read part of Psalm 44 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the psalmist's circumstances?</li> <li>• What is his response?</li> <li>• How does this connect to Rom 8? (see esp. V35, 37, 18)</li> </ul>
5. As a group (or as the leader) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>resolve which <b>question(s)</b> are most helpful to explore (1 or 2)</li> <li>How does the text (or the context of Romans) help answer the question?</li> </ol>	
6. As a group, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>resolve what you think the <b>main point</b> of the passage is.</li> </ol>	
<b>Respond</b>	
7. What kind of impact do you think this passage is intended to have?	<b>Prompts if needed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which of these concerns do you resonate with most? How are Paul's words a comfort?</li> <li>• If a Christian were to view their life and conclude that God was “against them”, how would this passage correct and encourage them?</li> <li>• If a Christian were to look at their sin and feel helpless, how would this passage encourage and help them?</li> </ul>
8. What kind of impact should it have? On <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What you believe</li> <li>What you want in life</li> <li>What you do this week</li> </ol>	
<b>Pray</b> in response to the passage, then in pairs	

8:31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

36 As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;  
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.