

September 2nd, 2012
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Patrick Carmichael
Romans 8:26-39

“The Saving and Securing Love of God”

Discussion Questions:

1. Are you convinced of God's love for you? Why do you answer the way you do? What more would you have Him do to convince you of His great love for you?
2. When was the last time you questioned God's love for you? What were the circumstances, trials, or difficulties surrounding your questions of God's love? What is it that you were turning into an idol and proclaiming that if God only gave you that one thing, you would know that He really does love you?
3. Read Mark 12:1-12. How much did God the Father love His one and only Son? During what two events in the Son's earthly life did the Father proclaim how pleased He was in His Son? What should the knowledge of the Father's love for His Son produce in us when we realize that He willingly GAVE His Son for us?
4. How would you answer the question, "What was the greatest obstacle standing between us and God?" Why are the following answers either flat-out wrong, too man-centered, correct but not the greatest, etc: Satan, guilt, shame, wrath, God's holiness, our sin. Is there any other obstacle that you can think of that would be greater for God to overcome than His love for His own Son?
5. Since God has done the hardest thing (not sparing His own Son), then it is easy for Him to do the easier thing, namely that He will "freely give us ALL THINGS!" How should this knowledge rightfully inform our understanding of what God has NOT given us? In the midst of a trial or a circumstance that we do not like, we so often tend to look at the things God has NOT or is NOT giving us (health, a job, a family, a spouse, freedom from anxieties or discomforts, etc.). How should Romans 8:32 inform our understanding of those things that He is not giving us?
6. Included in God "freely giving us all things" is His ability to fulfill all the promises in Scripture toward us! What are some of the promises in Scripture that you cling to the most in times of trouble that based on Romans 8:32 you know without a shadow of a doubt ARE TRUE!!!! (i.e., "I will be with you," "I will never leave you nor forsake you," "I will strengthen you," etc.)
7. Look through the list of people/circumstances that we would tend to think could separate us from the love of God (vs. 31-39). Which part of that list do you most normally struggle with? (i.e., that people can separate you, that persecution can separate you, that demons can separate you, etc.)
8. Read the following verses. What do they say about God's securing love? 1 Peter 1:3-5; Ephesians 1:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Jude 24-25.
9. Why does Paul refer to our glorification in the past tense (Romans 8:30)? How confident is Paul that you and I will make it to glory?
10. What does it mean to be an overwhelming conqueror (Romans 8:37)? What is the difference between being a conqueror and being an overwhelming conqueror?
11. How should this message motivate your boldness in evangelism? What an unbelievable message we have to share with those who are lost and dying around us! Are you convinced of the Father's love for you? Then will you pray for those around you who do not know that love and then boldly share the Good News of our great God with those around you?