

# SERMON NOTES

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**Date:** September 11, 2016

**Title:** Foundations of Faith (Part 2)

**Text:** Romans 8:29-30

**Big Idea:** Believing that God will work all things together for the good of his people doesn't require a leap of faith. Rather, it's upheld by the reality of God's sovereignty in salvation.

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Five reasons why those who love Jesus Christ can believe that God will work everything for their good and his glory.

1. God Has Loved You Eternally
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. God Has Chosen You Purposefully
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. God Has Called You Effectively
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. God Has Justified You Graciously
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. God Has Glorified You Irrevocably

1. How was the doctrine of *foreknowledge* defined in the sermon? How does this biblical definition stand in contrast to many popular views? Why is it crucial to understand God's foreknowledge in salvation as a deliberate action taken by God and not simply looking into the future?
  
2. What is the goal and purpose of predestination? Are you content with this purpose? What things in your life do you sometimes functionally want more than Christlikeness?
  
3. Read the following passages and answer the questions about being "called."
  - "Paul, *called* by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus . . . to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, *called* to be saints . . ." (1 Cor. 1:1-2)
  - "God is faithful, by whom you were *called* into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (1 Cor. 1:9)
  - ". . . who saved us and called us to a holy *calling*, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began." (2 Tim. 1:9)
  - "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who *called* you out of darkness into his marvelous light." (1 Pet. 2:9)
  - "And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has *called* you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you." (1 Pet. 5:10)
  - "His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who *called* us to his own glory and excellence," (2 Pet. 1:3)

Where does this calling come from? Why does it matter?

Would you say this calling is general or specific? Explain why.

What does this calling produce in the life those who receive it?

Why are you glad God's calling is effective?

4. How does glorification help you keep your sufferings in perspective?