

Going Deeper

Sermon Discussion Guide FAQ'S How Do I Change My Thoughts, Part 2

Open your group with a prayer.

This is only a guide. Pick and choose your points.

Romans 7:15 - I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.

Romans 7:21-23 - So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my **mind** and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.

1. Shame
2. Uncontrolled Thoughts
3. Inner Desires
4. Fear
5. Hopelessness
6. Bitterness
7. Insecurity

Question: Did God give you any insight into the destructive weapons? _____

Question: Did you have any victory over them? _____

Romans 8:14-16 - ... because those who are led by the **Spirit of God** are sons of God. 15 For you did **not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear**, but **you received the Spirit of sonship**. And by him we cry, "*Abba*, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Question: Name some of the fears that you have. _____

Question: Would you describe some of your fears as being all-consuming? _____

Question: As a Christ follower, what have you received? _____

Prayer:

As a Christ follower you are a child of God. Spend some time in prayer on this thought. The God who created the world that you see out of nothing is your loving Heavenly Father.

2 Timothy 1:7- For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

Question: As a Christ follower, what did you receive? _____
. How is that spirit described? _____

So as a believer, that power and love is in you.

Question: When you look at your life, do you tend to look at the here and now or the long term? _____

Romans 8:17-18 - Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. 18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Question: In verse 18, what does it say about present suffering? _____

Question: Have you ever lost hope because of your present suffering trials? _____

Question: How would looking at who God is and eternity help you to move from hopelessness to hope? _____

Question: Do you feel like you need to be in control? _____

Romans 8:19-32 - The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for

our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. 26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. 31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? 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?

Question: When you feel weak and out of control, who helps us in verse 26? _____

Question: When you are lost for words and direction in life, who speaks on your behalf? _____

Question: In verse 28, what is the promise we had? _____

Question: Who works it out? _____

It doesn't say all things are good, but that God works all things for His good.

Question: Have you ever had a situation that was not good turn around to be a blessing in your life? _____

Prayer:

What trials have you gone through or are going through that God wants to turn around? Have you given them to Him or are you still trying to control them?

Reread Romans 8:19 – 32.

Question: In verse 29, who is God trying to shape us into the image of? _____

Question: How could God use hardships in our life to shape us in the image of Jesus? _____

I have found that when hardships come my way, I am more open and receptive to God's help and guidance.

Question: What hardships might God be allowing in our life in order for you to completely rely on Him? _____

Read Romans 8:31–39.

Question: In verse 31, what did God do for you? _____

Could you imagine giving up your child to save another person? _____

Question: What does that tell you about His love for you? _____

Read:

Romans 8:38-39 - 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.**

Question: How would you describe His love for you? _____

Question: What could stop Him from loving you? _____

Question: What could separate His love from you? _____

Question: When you think of how much He loves you, would that encourage you to trust Him more in your life? _____

Question: In what areas of your life do you need to turn over your control to your Heavenly Father who loves you? _____

Feeding your Spiritual life: Prayer, Bible reading, Corporate Worship, and Serving Jesus.