



CONNECT
GROUPS

Tues 8/ Wed 9th February 2023 ~ Romans 8:28 - 39 ~ How much does God Love us?

Opening question:

Can you think of a time in your life when you felt most loved? What made you feel loved – or put another way – how was that love expressed?

Romans 8:28-34 God's love is Perfect – “to the cross and back”

Reminder: This week Jago spoke about how MUCH God loves us. He unpacked 4 things that we all need for love to flourish as per Romans 8:28 – 34. As you read this passage together, can you recall them? (As a clue - they all start with an “A”)

a. Appreciation (v. 29 – 30): God knows us (with all our sins and faults/ “warts and all”) yet still He loves us.

b. Acceptance (v. 31): So many of us fear rejection – but here we read that God in His perfect divinity accepts us in Christ.

c. Affection (v. 32): In giving His Son, He gives His all for us.

d. Approval (vs. 33 – 34): God justified us through Jesus – ‘just-as-if-I’d-never-sinned’.

1. Verses 28-34 are so relentlessly positive about God's love – but do you ever struggle to believe and/ or feel that God loves you in this way? Why?
2. How, practically, could we use each of the reasons Paul gives in v.28-34 to persuade ourselves and other Christians, of what God's love is like?

Romans 8:35 – 39 God's love is Permanent – “to eternity and back.”

3. In v.35 and v.38-39, Paul lists lots of things we may be tempted to think separate us from Christ's love. Do any of these resonate with you?

What other (perhaps lesser!) sorts of things may we be tempted to list as things that, on some level, make us feel separated from Christ's love?

4. Discuss the example that Jago gave of a tightrope walker when a rope beneath and a tether above.
 - Do you know (in your head) and feel (in your heart and conviction) that you are tethered to God? What might get in the way of that “knowing/conviction”?
 - What do you think might be able to separate us from that connection to God?
5. If we, as individuals, and as a CG, grew in our assurance of the perfection and permanence of God's love, what difference do you think it would make - in how we see and relate to ...God? ...ourselves? ...others? Be as specific as you can!



Do pray for one another to *connect* with God through Jesus and to know with full conviction that NOTHING can separate us from the perfect love of God and permanent connection with Him.



In what practical ways this week can we be a *conduit* of this “overwhelming, never-ending, reckless Love of God”?

*How much do I love you?
To the Cross and Back.
To Eternity and Back.
~ God*