



**Romans 8:18-30**  
Soli Deo Gloria | May 11<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Warm-up:** In what areas of life is “delaying gratification” most challenging? In what areas does it come more easily for you?

- Read **2 Corinthians 4:17, 18** aloud and let these words of Scripture guide your thoughts as you open your study in prayer.
  
- Read **Romans 8:18-25** silently on your own then together as a group.
  - Present hardships pale in comparison to future glory (**v.18**). Consider also Jesus’ promise in **Matt. 19:29**. In a spirit of being “honest” and “real” can we sometimes overemphasize our hardships? How so?
  - According to this passage, what is the object of our hope? How does this impact you personally?
  
- Read **Romans 8:26-27** aloud. In prayer, we can often be baffled, overwhelmed, or simply at a loss for words. The Holy Spirit, however, is actively at work on our behalf!
  - What do you find so comforting about this truth?
  - Do we need to *ask* the Spirit to intercede or is this done automatically?
  
- On Sunday we were given *5 Tips for Praying It Out*. They were: 1. Practice praying aloud when you are alone. 2. Accept your own style of out loud prayer. 3. Aim for shorter prayers. 4. Troubled times help out loud prayers. 5. If you’re praying *for* someone, ask *what* they want Jesus to do for them (hint: *they* will give you the words to pray through their request).
  - Do you relate with each of these? How so?
  - In what way do you *most* want to grow in your prayer life?
  
- **Romans 8:28** is an anchor verse for millions of believers. We can be confident that all circumstances (with a specific view toward *sufferings* [v.18]) will work together in cooperation for the believer’s good.
  - This “good” work relates to our character formation in Christ. How have you seen Jesus’ character shaped within you in recent years?

**Wrap-up:** Trust the Spirit to be interceding for you all as you close in prayer!