



Sermon Discussion Guide

December 21, 2025 | Romans 8:18-25 | Hector

SUMMARY

Big Idea: God's children are characterized by the Hope of their Father
In our verses, Paul celebrates the hope given to us by God, through adopting us as his children through the gospel. A strong hope that is worthy of your life involves the promise-maker, as promises are only as good as the strength and faithfulness of the one who makes them. For the Christian, our hopes are not fanciful wishes, but are certain expectations that flow out of the certain promises of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro

- What are your hopes for this Christmas season? Why?
- How do your hopes influence your thoughts and actions now?
- What distinguishes strong and certain hope from flaky, whimsical, uncertain hope?

Read Romans 8:18-25

1. What seems to be Paul's main desire for his readers in these verses?
 - a. How do you know?
 - b. How does he reason and support this main point?
2. How does present suffering relate to future hope?
 - a. We typically let suffering lead us to doubt God's promises and diminish our hope. From these verses, what would Paul say to transform that?
3. Paul says that the whole of creation is groaning. What does that mean? Why is creation groaning?
 - a. What are you "groaning" for?
 - b. How would you discern what you or others are groaning for?
4. Where does your hope lead you? To God or to this world?
5. How have you seen God strengthen you through suffering?
 - a. How have you seen God strengthen others through suffering?
6. How can your hope be strengthened?

KINGDOM IMPACT - MULTIPLY

1. **Pray, Think, and Act.** Share any developments and updates in the areas below:
 - a. **Reach** – That God would use you to lead 1 person to faith in Christ
 - b. **Belong** – to multiply opportunities for others to be brought into community
 - c. **Serve** – to begin serving, invite others into serving, or multiplying serving efforts by meeting needs or blessing neighbors or ministry partners together as a group
 - d. **Gather** – to multiply the church (planting, revitalization, helping other churches)