



Sermon Discussion Guide

January 4, 2026 | Romans 8:31-39 | Brad

SUMMARY

Big Idea: Because God Perseveres, Christians will Persevere

In our verses, Paul draws chapter 8 to a close by leading us to draw conclusions about the truths he just laid out, in the whole chapter, but especially the preceding verses, v28-30. Those verses delivered to us the grand and glorious assurance of God completing all the steps necessary to bring about our salvation in the past, present and future. But are there any exception clauses? Paul answers in 31-39, "No!" Why? Because while the sin struggles within us and sufferings coming at us may tempt us to doubt, He has proven himself trustworthy to uphold his saving purposes - His character and disposition of grace toward us endures, His verdict of us being not guilty endures, and his love likewise endures. In each of these, Paul directs our attention to the cross, where God demonstrated clearly his grace, justice, and love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro

Looking ahead to the new year, what are you excited about or hoping for?
What are you nervous or unsure about? What are you praying for?

Read Romans 8:31-32

1. God is "for us" and will "give us all things." How could these verses be misunderstood and misapplied? Where would these wrong understandings lead?
2. If that is not what Paul means, what does Paul mean, and how does the context of verses 28-30 help us?
3. In what situations or circumstances are you tempted to doubt God's character of grace toward you? Where does Paul direct our thoughts to combat those fears and doubts?

Read Romans 8:33-34

4. In what circumstance are you tempted to doubt God's justice - the justified status he has given you through Christ?
 - a. What makes Paul so certain that this status can never change?

Read Romans 8:35-39

5. In what circumstances are you tempted to doubt God's love for you?
 - a. What makes Paul fully convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love?
 - b. What does Paul mean when he says we are "more than conquerors?" How does it relate to 8:28-29?
6. What assurance do you have that you will endure and persevere to the end? What is the difference between an answer that begins with "Because **I**", versus the answer Paul desires for us to give, "Because **He**..."

If helpful, feel free to interact with the following quotes & poem

"In Christ, you will never need anything more – physically or spiritually – than what God can and will supply in order to bring you into glory"

John Stott

Our confidence is not in our love for him, which is frail, fickle, and faltering, but in his love for us, which is steadfast, faithful, and persevering. The doctrine of "the perseverance of the saints" needs to be renamed. It is the doctrine of "the perseverance of God with his saints."

John Campbell Shairp

From noon of joy to night of doubt
our feelings come and go;
our best estate is toss'd about
in ceaseless ebb and flow;

no mood of feeling, form of thought,
is constant for a day,
but thou, O Lord, thou changest not;
the same thou art always.

I grasp thy strength, make it my own,
my heart with peace is bless'd;
I lose my hold, and then comes down
darkness and cold unrest.

Let me no more my comfort draw
from my frail grasp of thee;
in this alone rejoice with awe,
thy mighty grasp of me.

Thy purpose of eternal good
let me but surely know;
on this I'll lean, let changing mood
and feelings come and go;

glad when thy sunshine fills my soul,
not sad when clouds o'er cast,
since thou within thy sure control
of love dost hold me fast.

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)