NO CONDEMNATION AND NEVER-FAILING LOVE

Romans 8 is one of the high points of Scripture. It practically begs us to bask in the goodness of God. It begins with the assurance that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ (Romans 8:1), and it ends with the promise that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ (Romans 8:35–39). Wow! No condemnation. No separation. Bask. In. This.

Of course, a lot of life happens between God’s promise of no condemnation and His assurance of no separation from His love. We learn to live lives that fulfill God’s law as we are empowered by the Spirit (Romans 8:4). God’s Spirit begins to give life to the body of death that was so frustrating in the previous chapter (Romans 7:24; Romans 8:10, 11). The same Spirit helps us resolve the tension between our desire to do good and the weakness of our sinful flesh by helping us put to death the deeds of the body (Romans 8:13). All the while, we live in the joyful assurance that we are children of God and that we have an everlasting inheritance (Romans 8:14–17). When we suffer, we trust that God will work all things together for good (Romans 8:28).

We also groan, and when we groan, we don’t groan alone. We groan with all creation as we wait for the time when all creation will be liberated from the bondage of decay to the glorious liberty of God’s children (Romans 8:19–23). More than that, the Spirit groans along with us, helping us in our great need (Romans 8:26).
Write out Romans 8 from the Bible translation of your choice. If you are pressed for time, write out Romans 8:31–39. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

**Circle** repeated words/ phrases/ideas

**Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw **Arrows** to connect words/ phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Romans 8. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

How has God’s promise of no condemnation changed your spiritual experience?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/rom08-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How is hope real for you, in light of Romans 8?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/rom08-4
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What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Galatians 4:1–7
Galatians 5:16–26
Hebrews 2:16–18
Revelation 21:1–4

What other verses come to mind about the Spirit and the love of God?

Review your memorized verse from Romans 8.
Inseparable Love

Read more at www.inversebible.org/rom08-6

Meditate on Romans 8 again and look for where Jesus is.

How has God’s love helped you to be a conqueror when you faced suffering?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, how has Romans 8 impacted you personally?

How can Romans 8 impact your social world?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/rom08-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

When have you felt God fulfilling the righteous requirements of the law in your life?

When have you struggled to put to death the deeds of the body?

Have you ever been unable to pray because of distress? How is the promise that the Spirit intercedes for us when we cannot pray helpful in that circumstance?

How should Christians relate to the groaning and suffering of creation?

How has God’s love comforted you in suffering or loss?

Describe a time when God unexpectedly worked something bad out for good.

What is your comfort level in calling God with an affectionate term such as “Abba,” “Papa,” or “Dad”?