



## RESTORING YOUR SPIRIT OF HOPE

November 8, 2009

*"In the past you were without Christ. . .and you had no part in the promises that God made to his people. You had no hope, and you didn't know God. But now you are in Christ Jesus. . ."*  
(Ephesians 2.12-13 NCV)

### IN CHRIST I CAN ALWAYS BE HOPEFUL

(Romans Chapter 8)

#### 1. Because His Pardon Eases My Guilt

*"There is no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ Jesus."*  
(Romans 8.1 Living Bible)

#### 2. Because His Power Breaks My Bad Habits

*"For the power of the life-giving spirit - - and this power is mine through Christ Jesus - has freed me from the vicious circle of sin and death."*  
(Romans 8.2 Living Bible)

#### 3. Because His Purpose Transforms My Problems

*"And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."*  
(Romans 8.28 Living Bible)

#### 4. Because His Protection Relieves My Fears

*"So what should we say about this? If God is for us, no one can defeat us."*  
(Romans 8.31 NCV)

#### 5. Because His Provision Supplies My Needs

*"Since God did not spare even His own Son for us but gave him up for us all, won't he also surely give us everything else?"*  
(Romans 8.32 Living Bible)

#### 6. Because His Promise Secures My Future

*"Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor spirits, nothing now, nothing in the future, no powers, nothing above us, nothing below us, nor anything else in the whole world will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*  
(Romans 8.38-39 NCV)

### The Reason We are Building Up And Reaching Out

To share the \_\_\_\_\_

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Read Romans 8:28-38 Aloud in your group.

1. On an optimist-pessimist scale, where would you position yourself? Why?
2. How does verse 28 relate to the idea of suffering? (verse 18)
3. What do the five verbs that describe God's role in our coming to know him mean (vv. 29-30)
4. How do these support the truth of verse 28?
5. What are the five questions and their answers in verses 31-35? What is God's point in raising them?
7. How could the forces in verses 38-39 disrupt our trust in God's love?
8. How is God putting you through the school of hard knocks now? How do you see God at work in this?
9. Of the enemies mentioned in verses 38-39, which one is the most real to you?
10. How could your group pray for you? What would help the most?

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**COMMITMENT SUNDAY – November 15<sup>th</sup>**

- Unwritten commitment to God for ongoing ministries of North Lake

- Written three-year commitment to our Building Up- Reaching Out Campaign.