# THE BOOK OF ROMANS



## 11. Living in God's Love

### **Introduction**

Everyone faces struggles and suffering at some time in their lives. During these situations we may cry out in our hearts to God for help. As believers we have the assurance that the Holy Spirit will help us and God has also given us a wonderful promise that we can hold on to at such times.

#### Scripture Reading: Romans 8:28-39

O What is this promise and who is it for according to verse 28?

(The promise is that God will work all things together for good for those who love him and have been called by his name.)

What do you think it means when it says, 'called according to his purpose', and what is that purpose? See Romans 8:28-29

(Many think that when God works for good, it is what seems good to them. However we have been called for his purpose, and that purpose is to become like Jesus. God does not cause the suffering we go through, but he will use it in our lives to make us like him.)

- Share a time when you have gone through some kind of difficulty or suffering, but as you look back you can see that God has used this for good in your life.
- What does God do for his children according to verses 29 and 30? What does this really mean?

(*He predestined us to be his children, then he called and justified us. One day we will also be glorified.*)

Before we were born God already knew we would choose to follow him and so he called and justified us. This means that he has forgiven us and now it is just as if we have never sinned. He works in our lives, even through the difficulties we experience to change us to become more like Jesus.

What difference will it make in our lives if we really understand what God has done for us? v31-32

(We will have a greater confidence that God is for us and will do what is good for us.)

Read verses 33 to 39 and spend time meditating on these verses. Share a verse or phrase that inspires you and what this means to you.

## **Conclusion**

The verses we have looked at in this study start with the wonderful words, 'In all things God works for the good of those who love him', but the chapter ends by speaking of his love for us. Nothing will be able to separate us from his love. When we truly understand this we can entrust our lives into his hands with confidence. May each one of us have a revelation of his love!

