



March 10, 2024

Romans: Rooted in Jesus
Something to Boast About
Romans 5:1-5

Questions and Discussion:

1. The Apostle Paul says that the creation is waiting to experience what we have, “the freedom of the glory of the children of God.” (Romans 8:21) What’s your image or vision of your future in God’s kingdom? What does eternity look like from your perspective? What will you be like in that future?
2. How does your current, present-day suffering (hardships, afflictions) contribute to the realization of that future? Consider two passages, Romans 8:28-30 and Hebrews 12:3-11.
3. Why does Paul use the word “boast”? What does he imply with that word? How does he demonstrate this in his afflictions and imprisonment? 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. (Remember that in 2 Corinthians Paul is defending his ministry against those diminishing and rejecting him.)
4. What did you think about this progression that the Apostle gave? Suffering produces endurance (patience), endurance produces character (provenness), and character produces hope. How does the development of character lead us to hope in our future glory?
5. If you ever watched National Lampoon’s *Vacation*, you remember the long road trip to Wallyworld, only to arrive and have the park closed. The Apostle tells us that we won’t have that experience, “hope does not put us to shame,” v.5. What evidence does he give that our hope will be realized?
6. In the sermon, I mentioned that justification is like a masterpiece painting that presents the legal work of Jesus for us, freeing us from sin and judgment, so that by the Holy Spirit’s work, we can become holy, conformed to the image of Christ. How does the teaching of justification give you hope? How does it give you hope as you make progress, have setbacks, and struggle against sin?
7. What can you be doing to live in the masterpiece of Jesus’ work?