



Leader Conversation Guide – XXVII - Romans (Part II)

Main Idea

This week Pastor Curt continued our XXVII series with a message from Romans chapter 5. How incredible would it be if we were no longer slaves to our difficulties and hardship, but lived content and in hope, with the joy of the Lord? We were challenged in this message to rely on the Lord in the midst of the trials we face in life. In Romans 5, we see that God is for us and by our side. Christ died for us, even while we were still sinners. Let's take another look at this message and how this passage of Scripture is relevant in our lives today.

Make It Practical: When you need hope...

1. Rejoice in God.
 - Romans 5:1-2 - "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through whom we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God."
 - Justified: Moving from unrighteous to righteous
 - We can worry or we can worship.
2. Rejoice in hardship.
 - Romans 5:3-4 (ESV) - "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."
 - Character is forged through hardship.
 - You cannot decide what happens to you, but you can decide who you become.
 - Leadership is about increasing your pain threshold.
 - The greater the pain, the greater the impact.
3. Rejoice in reconciliation.
 - The most important stuff in your life isn't stuff, it is relationships.
 - Romans 5:6-11 - "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation."

Talk About It

- What part of this message impacted you most?
- What does rejoicing in our suffering look like?
- What situations are you facing that you need to rejoice through?

Joy is an inside job.

Prayer

Father, teach me to find my joy in you, and not seek the pleasures of this world. Give me faith to trust You in the midst of any uncertainties or circumstances I may face in this world. Holy Spirit, guide me through this life, that I would not waver side to side, but I would focus on the straight and narrow. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Leader Tip

Remind Group Members to invite someone to join us for our Easter Services this weekend!