

SERMON NOTES

September 7 & 8, 2023

Out of Control: Life Happens Romans 8:28

Series Premise: I will either live at the _____ or the _____.

Series Goal: Learn how to live in the reality that _____ than
my circumstances. **Romans 8:28**

1. *"...in all things..."*

- The circumstances of life happen _____.

2. *"...in all things God works..."*

- God is _____ circumstances in my life. **Isaiah 40:12, 26**

3. *"...in all things God works for the good..."*

- God is always working for _____ in all circumstances.

Romans 8:28-29a

4. *"...in all things God works for the good of those who love him..."*

- God wants to love and _____. **Deuteronomy 6:4-5 | Matthew 5:44-45**

5. *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him..."*

- _____ God validates my knowing God is always working for my good. **John 7:17**

Life Steps

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Monday

Romans 8:28

Reflect: Begin memorizing this verse. What does this phrase “in all things” mean to you? What do you think the writer meant when he says “for the good”?

Prayer: Lord, help me this week know that even in difficult circumstances, you are at work in my life for my good

Tuesday

Romans 8:28 | Romans 9:14-16

Reflect: Work on reciting from memory. If you truly believed that God can work in all things for your good, how would it change how you feel? Why is it difficult for you to believe that God is working for your good when bad things are happening to you?

Prayer: God, help me to live according to your mercy and not according to my efforts or circumstances.

Wednesday

Romans 8:28 | Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Reflect: Write out Romans 8:28 from memory. Jesus calls the Deuteronomy passage the great commandment. How does the writer describe what it means to love God? What will you do this week to help you love God wholeheartedly and know that in all things, God is working for your good?

Prayer: Thank you for loving me even when I fail to love and trust you.

Thursday

Romans 8:28-29

Reflect: What does Paul say about the ultimate result of God’s work in all things? What does “conformed to the image of his Son” mean to you?

Prayer: God, may your love and mercy continue to work on me, conforming me to the image of Jesus.

Friday

Romans 5:1-5

Reflect: There is a saying, “Suffering builds character.” How does character building differ between those who believe in God and those who do not?

Prayer: Holy and perfect God, use my circumstances to forge my character to be more like Jesus.

Saturday

Isaiah 40: 12-26

Reflect: God is infinitely bigger than our circumstances. How does that statement impact your perspective of the challenging circumstances you are currently facing? Recite Romans 8:28 from memory.

Prayer: Almighty God, I am humbled and in awe of your continual work in all of creation and my daily circumstances.

Sunday

John 7:17

Reflect: Slowly recite Romans 8:28. My obedience to God validates my “knowing” God is always working for my good. There is a connection between “doing” and “knowing.” What do you sense God asking you to do when it comes to your character and obedience to his word? Forgive someone? Be more generous? Be more merciful? Be more truthful? Be more patient? Be more kind? Be more loving? Set healthy boundaries? Other?

Prayer: Thank you, God, for showing up in my circumstances. Help me to trust and obey you in all things.