

## MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES

### Message Discussion Questions

Read Romans 8:12-38. What does Paul say about overcoming fear

#### Explore the Text

1. **Rom. 8:12** In what sense are believers 'not debtors to our flesh'? How do you 'live according to your flesh' (self-sufficiency/self-dependency)?
2. **Rom. 8:13, 14 & 15** each begin with FOR... What 3 reasons/explanations does Paul make? How do they encourage us not to live according to our flesh?
3. Why is **Rom 8:16-17** such good news? What does the Holy Spirit do in/for us? How does the Spirit help us with 'sinful fear'? How does the Spirit connect us to the heart of our Father? Give an example of that from your life.
4. **Rom. 8:18-25** What role does suffering have in our lives? What is the connection between suffering and fear? What does the Spirit do (8:23)?
5. **Rom. 8:26-30** What role does the Spirit's praying for/with us have? What perspective/purpose does He pray for us (8:28-30)? Why is this helpful?
6. **Rom. 8:31-38** How do these verses help us trust our Father in a way that helps us overcome 'sinful' fear? Give an example using one of these verses.

#### Truth to Live By

1. **Believers are adopted into God's family by trusting Jesus alone. 8:14-17**  
What's the significance of being adopted into God's family? Are you adopted? In what sense are believers freed from the necessary power of sin? Why does God want believers to have assurance of their salvation? Dangers?
2. **Believers have received the Person of the Holy Spirit. 8:9-17;23;26-27**  
Who is the Holy Spirit? Is He God? Is He a Person? What does the Spirit do? **2 Tim. 1:7** How does the Spirit provide believers power? Love? Self-control? **Power:** Eph. 5:18; Acts 1:8 Spirit-enabled ability to follow Jesus  
**Love:** Rom. 5:3-5, 8; 1 Jn. 4:17-19 Spirit-enabled to sacrificially love  
**Self-control:** Gal. 5:22-23; 2 Pet. 1:6 Spirit-enabled ability to control 'self'  
Discernment is part of self-control. How does that help us overcome fear?
3. **Believers are promised to suffer & God uses it for our good. 8:17-22**  
Why is suffering necessary? What does suffering do in us? How does God use suffering in our lives? See Heb. 2:10; 5:8; 2 Cor. 1:8-9; 11:16-12:10
4. **The Holy Spirit prays for us to form us into Jesus' image. 8:26-30**  
What does the Spirit pray for you? Do you have a role in His praying for you? Since the Spirit prays for us & Jesus prays for us (Heb. 7:25), why should we pray? What role does our praying have? Why does our Father want us to pray?
5. **Believers are eternally secure in our Father's love. 8:31-39**  
Do believers suffer (hard things)? How does He use these 'hard things'? If God loves us & is for us & is in control of all things...why do we suffer?

**Apply:** What truth from Rom. 8 is the Father asking you to trust Him for today?