

Sonship
Paul Goebel
PCPC Tuesday Morning Bible Study
November 11, 2014

Romans 8:16-30

Rom. 8:16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Rom. 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. 23 And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Rom. 8:26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. 27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Questions:

1. What does it mean to be God's son? Why does it matter?
2. What does suffering have to do with being a son of God?
3. Why is suffering such an important part of the Christian life?
4. Why is the Prosperity Gospel (Health and Wealth Christianity) so dangerous?
5. How does our sonship give us hope in the midst of suffering?
6. Do you like being helped? What makes needing help so humiliating?
7. What must you surrender in order to truly be helped?
8. What does it mean to be conformed to the image of God's Son?
9. What is your inheritance as God's son? Do you live in light of an earthly inheritance or your inheritance in heaven?