



8/15/25

*On this week's episode of the Chosen and Cherished podcast, we talked about how Jesus is better than a Disney movie. If you'd like to know why, here's the link... <https://summitpoint.org/chosen-and-cherished/>*

*Romans 8:28-30*

*What do I truly KNOW about the gospel? What do I comprehend? Can my feelings negate the truth of the gospel? I decided to take my own counsel that I gave to someone else... to answer 4 questions when my feelings go against what I know to be true.*

- 1. What's the feeling or thought I'm struggling with?*
- 2. What's the situation?*
- 3. What's true from scripture?*
- 4. Can I do anything to make it untrue?*

*Applying those questions to Romans 8:28-30, I will see what I KNOW vs. what I sometimes FEEL.*

- 1. What is the thought or feeling I'm struggling with?*

*Fear that I'm a disappointment to God and He doesn't want to work good in my situation. He's annoyed with me.*

- 2. What's the situation?*

*I had something I needed to do because I've made a commitment to do it for the Lord, but I felt like I hadn't done enough to earn His favor... so I didn't deserve to have His help. I don't know what I think "enough" is, but I know whatever it is, I haven't done it.*

### *3. What's true from Romans 8:28-30?*

*The only thing God wants me to do is love Him. He provides everything I need through Jesus. The fact that I responded to the Lord in faith is evidence of my love for Him. I know from 1 John 4:19 that He never expected me to love Him first. He loved me first. I love Him BECAUSE He loved me first. The closer I grow to Him, the more He will perfect His love in me.*

*God "called me according to His purpose." It was HIS purpose, HIS plan to call me, not my purpose and my plan. Because He called me, He WILL work all things together for my good. That doesn't mean that He calls all things good... but He is able to even take the worst things and use them for my good. Would someone who loves that much, who loved me first, who loves me more than I can comprehend love, turn around and condemn me and break His promises? Not only will He not break His promises... He doesn't want to!*

*"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." The truth is, God KNEW me before He even created me. What I KNOW is that He works things for my good. What He KNOWS is me. If He truly KNOWS me then He knows that I am unable to obey Him without fail this side of heaven. He KNOWS me and He has given me a destiny... He works His good in me to accomplish His destiny for me... even when He has to work His good through my failures.*

*What is the good He wants to do? It is far greater than any good the world has to offer. The world offers temporary life, conditional freedom that is not really freedom at all, and the pursuit of happiness... but not the promise of happiness. The good the Father works in me is eternal life, eternal freedom, the unconditional promise of happiness that comes through being just like Jesus... full of grace, full of truth, overflowing with love and peace and joy.*

*To be like Jesus is to be family with Him. Jesus died to set us free, but He died for much more than that. He died to make it possible for us to be adopted into His family. Because of Jesus, God is not a benevolent stranger to me. He's my Dad.*

*"And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified."*

*God foreknew me... I was not a mistake.*

*God predestined me to be like Jesus... He WILL fulfill His purpose in me. I am not forgotten.*

*God called me... He did not expect me to find Him on my own... and He doesn't expect me to keep searching for Him now. He's already here. He says I can confidently and boldly "draw near*

*to His throne of grace (not a throne of disappointment) to receive mercy (not condemnation) and grace (strength and favor) in my time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). For me to think that He called me to salvation but doesn't want to be with me now would be like me giving birth to my daughters and then ignoring them for the rest of their lives. That would be horrible! I adore my daughters!!! As much as I love them, His love for us is exponentially more. My love is like a drop in the ocean compared to His ocean of love.*

*God justified me... He doesn't make me earn my acquittal from guilt. Jesus did it for me. "Where there is forgiveness of guilt and sin, there is no longer any need for sacrifice" (Hebrews 10:18). I don't have to earn my way out of the prison of condemnation by being on my best behavior. I seek to honor God because I was delivered from prison BEFORE I ever did even one act of righteousness. I could not have done anything in righteousness until Jesus gave me HIS righteousness. And that came with salvation.*

*I am GLORIFIED... What? Yes... He has glorified me. The opposite of glory is SHAME. God never shames me. Even if people shame me... even if I shame myself... the one who loved me and gave Himself for me will never shame me.*

*This is the truth from God's word...*

- He called me according to HIS purpose.*
- He works ALL things together for my good.*
- He KNOWS me and has always known me.*
- He has made it my destiny to be like Jesus. I cannot stop His plan.*
- He called me to salvation and relationship with Him.*
- He justified me... He gave me the free gift of HIS righteousness and acquitted me from ALL guilt.*
- He glorified me... He gave me honor. 1 Peter 2:7 says He gives me honor simply for putting my faith in Him.*

4. *Can I do anything to make all these truths from scripture UNTRUE?*

*No! Do I have the power to overpower what God says to be true? No! He says in Isaiah 46:8-10, "Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all My purpose.'"*

*What is my only response to all this truth from Romans 8:28-30? Love Him. Let everything I do for Him be motivated from love, not fear of punishment. How do I love Him? 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 tells me how...*

- *Patiently wait for Him when I don't understand what He's doing... because He's far more patient with me than I ever need to be with His plan.*
- *Be kind to Him... through obedience... because His kindness toward me was proven on the cross.*
- *Don't envy His position of authority by trying to take it for myself... celebrate wonderful His authority.*
- *Don't boast in myself... only boast in the fact that I know Him and He loves me... and share that with others.*
- *Don't let arrogance and pride rule my heart... Remember that His humility toward me was so great that it sent Him to the cross.*
- *Don't be rude to Him... ignoring Him when He's leading me or accusing Him as though He is not loving toward me or working all things together for my good.*
- *Don't be irritable with Him... Don't get angry with Him and think it's okay to stay there because "He can take it." Remember all the reasons I've given Him to be angry with me, and He isn't!*
- *Don't resent Him and what He's doing... instead trust that what He's doing will ALWAYS be for my good.*
- *Don't celebrate the things that break His heart.*
- *Celebrate the truth. He's the truth. Psalm 18:30 says that "every word of His proves true."*
- *Bear all things with Him... His yoke is easy and His burdens are light... and He bore all my sins.*
- *Believe all things that He says... Everything He says is true. Don't love my feelings more than I love God. Don't believe my feelings over God.*
- *Hope all things with Him... He is the God of hope. I can put all my confident expectation in Him because He's faithful.*
- *Endure all things with Him and for Him.... Hebrews 13:7 tells me to "endure hardship as discipline." He is discipling me, training me in righteousness so that I can experience its peaceful fruit.*

*May I never forget that I love Him because He loved me first. I am able to love Him more and more because He loves me most. If I truly love Him by believing everything He says, I really have no reason to fear or to try to be in charge or to seek other pleasures or to doubt in shame. That's pretty good!*