

## **SERMON BASED LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**

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### **FOR STARTERS:**

1. What groups do you tend to separate out as "not true Christians?"
2. What helps you when you are feeling distant from God?

**2. MAIN SCRIPTURE:** Romans 8: 31-39

### **LET'S TALK:**

1. What external forces impact your relationship with God? Do you feel confident in your relationship with God? Why or why not? If not, what external forces are causing you to doubt?
2. What are some litmus test issues that you are tempted to judge others relationship with God?
3. Have you ever had any past experiences where others felt you fell a short of a "Christian" litmus test? What was the issue?

### **DIG DEEPER WITH OTHER SCRIPTURE:**

1. One of the themes of Romans 8:35-39 is that we, as Christians, are inseparable from Christ. Read John 10:28 and 17:23. Read Matthew 28:20. What verse(s) assure you the most that Christ is with you no matter what happens in your life?
2. Read Psalms 4. What were the external forces that King David was struggling with? In spite of this, his hope was still in the Lord. Why do you think his hope was steadfast?

### **MAKE IT PERSONAL:**

1. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" Is there anyone in your life whose condemnation carries more weight than God? How does knowing that God doesn't condemn us help us deal with condemnation from others?
2. What practices do you have in your life that help you to not have external forces wedge between you and God?

### **NEXT STEPS:**

1. In what ways does your life group help you to hear the truth and push way external forces?
2. Are you going through a circumstance that you do not see God's work in you? What can you do about that this week?

