



April 5, 2025

7:00 AM

RESCUED FOLLOW-UP STUDY WEEK TWO

Desmond Tutu, the Nobel laureate and Anglican minister who helped lead the quest to end apartheid in South Africa, was once asked by the BBC to identify the defining moment of his life. Tutu described a day when he and his mother were walking down the street. He was nine years old at the time.

A tall white man dressed in a black suit came toward them. In the days of apartheid, when a black person and a white person met on a footpath, the black person was expected to step into the gutter to allow the white person to pass while nodding their head as a gesture of respect.

On this day, however, before the young Tutu and his mother could step off the sidewalk, the white man stepped aside. As they passed, he tipped his hat in a gesture of respect to her.

The white man was Trevor Huddleston, an Anglican priest who was bitterly opposed to apartheid. When Tutu's mother told him that Huddleston had stepped off the sidewalk because he was a "man of God," the young man found his calling. "When she told me that he was an Anglican priest, I decided then and there that I wanted to be an Anglican priest too. And what is more, I wanted to be a man of God."

The goal of Christianity is not just to get people to heaven, but to bring a little of heaven here to earth. In this lesson we are going to look at what it means to have the gospel permeate all of us so that when people see us, they want to be a "man of God" as well.

Warm-Up Questions

1. Who is the person or persons whose lives were instrumental in your coming to faith.

2. What did you see in their lives that was different?

BIBLE STUDY

No other book of the Bible has been more influential in church history than the book of Romans. If there was one chapter in Romans that would be considered the Mount Everest of scripture, it is chapter 8. For our study today, we are going to do a quick overview of the chapter looking at five foundational blocks for living a gospel centered life.

Read: Romans 8

On Saturday we will have three men each read 13 verses of chapter 8 of Romans.

8 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. ⁷ Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰ And if Christ *is* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin, but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Sonship Through the Spirit

¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of

adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”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 joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

From Suffering to Glory

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits 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 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. ²³ Not only *that*, but we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. ²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance. ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession ^[9]for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*. ²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among

many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

God's Everlasting Love

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. ³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

"For Your sake we are killed all day long;
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM BIBLE STUDY

Principle: You cannot live in the present if you are constantly looking to your past.

3. What does Paul mean when he says there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ (v1)?

Principle: The Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you and what we are powerless to do in our own lives, Christ can.

4. What difference does it make that the resurrected Christ lives in you (v11)?

Principle: I am not defined by the world, but by God; I am not defined by what others say, but by what God says; I am not defined by what I do, but what He did; I am not defined by my past, but by God's forgiveness.

5. How does being a child of God, the Beloved give us a sense of significance, security and identity (v15-16)?

Principle: What God starts, He completes. God is committed to forming us into the image of His Son.

6. How does knowing that God's process of molding us into the image of Jesus is a lifelong endeavor? How might this provide perspective in difficult times (v28-29)?

Principle: The cross of Christ is the supreme revelation of God's love for us.

7. How does it help to know there is nothing we can do to earn more of God's love or anything we can do to lose his love (v35-39)? How can we walk in that love daily?

VIDEO

Watch the talk by Greg Stier: Living a Gospel Centered Life

Greg Stier is an evangelist, author, speaker, and founder of Dare 2 Share Ministries. His favorite roles, though, are husband to Debbie and dad to Jeremy and Kailey.

Greg founded Dare 2 Share (D2S) in 1991 to train teens to share their faith. Then in 1999, the Columbine High School shooting happened just minutes down the road from their headquarters. It was more apparent than ever how desperately teenagers needed Jesus, so he resigned from a pastorate to pursue D2S full time. He has been speaking, training, and writing about youth ministry and evangelism ever since.

VIDEO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Greg states that if we are going to be rescuers, we need to imagine what Jesus did as he saw the crowd of lost individuals as harassed and helpless. He suggests that we use God’s word to paint a picture in our mind of the darkness of hell and the glories of heaven. What word pictures come to your mind that might help you when you want to witness to someone about heaven and hell?

2. What are some strategies that can make you a better healing force – loving, listening and speaking the gospel at work, in your neighborhood and in your family?

3. Jesus asked his disciples to “beg” God to send/catapult workers into His harvest field. What are ways that you can participate in the ministry of sending international workers into the field?

4. What will it take to turn you into a rescuer?

Scriptures:

[Philippians 1:27](#), [Philippians 2:3-4](#), [Philippians 4:6-7](#)

Quotes:

"A true Christian, living an obedient life, is a constant rebuke to those who accept the moral standards of this world." **Billy Graham**

"We look upon prayer simply as a means of getting things for ourselves, but the biblical purpose of prayer is that we may get to know God Himself." **Oswald Chambers**

"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him." **John Piper**

"Faith does not eliminate questions. But faith knows where to take them."

Elizabeth Elliot

Recommended Readings:

The Life you have always Wanted by John Ortberg

The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren

The Disciplines of a Godly Man by Kent Hughs

Knowing God by JI Packer