

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

If God Is For Us - Week 6

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Introduction

This week's passage in Romans talks of a hope so big that it is like taking all of the most amazing experiences of your life and multiplying them infinitely and eternally. In the midst of the passage are three groans: the groan of creation, the groaning of believers and the groan of the Holy Spirit. Each groan is a response to the gap between reality and the future hope.

Bible Passage

Romans 8:18-27, 2 Corinthians 12:3-4, Revelation 21:1-4

Discussion

1. What in these passages stands out to you? Why?
2. What does your future hope look like? Where do your daydreams go? Do you dream eternally? Take some time to write down your hopes.
3. When you consider the groans of creation, why do you think creation groans? What are the frustrations experienced by creation between reality and what God intends?
4. Have you been aware of the Holy Spirit groaning? How did you become aware of the Holy Spirit's groans? What is it like for you to wait and listen for the Holy Spirit?
5. Which of your hopes cause you the most frustration? Why?

Respond

Some of the things we are frustrated by, the gaps between reality and future hope, frustrate and cause concern for others also. By discussing the things which grieve us or cause us to groan we can choose to commit things to prayer, support one another or even take action to change a situation. Are there common areas, people, or issues you and those in your community are inwardly groaning about? Is God highlighting something in particular? How is He asking you to respond?

