



Easter: Reality of the Ascension | [Romans 8:30-39](#)

Matt Newman

Live as ONE

During this past week, what things have taken away or have threatened to take away your joy and your peace? Spend a few minutes bringing these things before Jesus and praying for His joy and His peace this week.

Live by the WORD

Read [Romans 8:28-39](#).

Read verse 28 again slowly.

How would you explain this promise to someone else in your own words? When the verse says that all things work for the “GOOD” of those who love God, what does that mean to you? How do you think that might be similar or different from all things working out for our happiness or enjoyment?

There seems to be a connection between verses 28 and 29, where the “GOOD” that all things are working toward is for us to “be conformed to the image of [Jesus].” We become a new kind of human—the kind of human that Jesus was, the kind of human that humans were originally designed to be.

Is this kind of “good” better than if the promise had been that all things would work out for your happiness? Why or why not?

In verses 31-37, Paul poses a series of questions about whether followers of Jesus can feel safe in the face of the challenges that inevitably arise in a broken world.

See how many questions you can find, and make note of how Paul answers them.

Do any of these sound similar to questions you’ve asked yourself in recent weeks?

Live as SENT

Paul seems to focus on the idea of separation toward the end of these verses. We are living through a season where separation has become a new normal for many of us. For some of us,

perhaps “separation” was our reality long before COVID. Maybe it has been your normal for longer than you care to remember.

Have you felt separated from Jesus during this COVID season?

To remind us that He is near, one of the gifts that Jesus gave is the church. How can your group help to remind each other that nothing can separate you from the love of Jesus?

He also has given us the gift of His Spirit. In this season where so many things have been canceled, have you made time to simply be still and let the Spirit remind you of the never-separating love of Jesus?

Take a moment now to be silent. Let everything else fade away. Let the Spirit remind you that Jesus has not abandoned you and that nothing can separate you from His love.

Now, think through other people that you know (maybe from work, or in your neighborhood, etc.) who may be feeling the pain of separation during this time. How can you be the hands and feet of Jesus to that person? How can you show them the never-separating love of Jesus?

Connect DAILY

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Sunday

[Romans 8:30-39](#)

Monday

[John 2:1-25;](#)
[Psalm 78:15-22; Proverbs 15:1-3](#)

Tuesday

[John 3:1-36;](#)
[Psalm 78:23-30; Proverbs 15:4-6](#)

Wednesday

[John 4:1-45;](#)
[Psalm 78:31-41; Proverbs 15:7-9](#)

Thursday

[John 4:46-5:17;](#)
[Psalm 78:42-47; Proverbs 15:10-12](#)

Friday

[John 5:18-47;](#)
[Psalm 78:48-55; Proverbs 15:13-16](#)

Saturday

[John 6:1-21;](#)
[Psalm 78:56-62; Proverbs 15:17-20](#)