

FOUNDATIONS | Romans 8:28-30 Together | 01.16.11

Every church and every person needs to have foundational beliefs that guide and direct life, decisions, direction, and processes. During 'Foundations' The Church at Martinsburg will examine the book of Romans and establish core doctrinal beliefs for life, relationships, and mission. This series more than any we've done before will set the pace and direction for the church. You don't want to miss this as we wade into one of the Bible's deepest and richest books!

Growth Questions for 1/16/11 – 1/23/11

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find most helpful, eye-opening, troubling?
2. What is the "good" for which God works all things?
3. In verse 28, Paul refers to "those who love God" and "those who are called according to His purpose" as one and the same group. What does this tell us about the nature of the "calling" he is speaking of? (Consider John 6:37, 44)
4. Rather than focusing on "how" or exactly "whom" God predestines, what are believers in Christ predestined "to"? (Ro. 8:29-30; Matthew 25:34; Ephesians 1:4-6, 11-12; Rev. 17:8)
5. How do all things work together for good? Does this mean that suffering is eliminated for true believers? How would you explain this verse to someone else?

Proclaim...Reach...Connect...Go

1. What are some ways you've experienced God taking something bad and working it for good in you? How could you use your story to edify someone else?
2. Can you think of a situation from which it is difficult to imagine any good would come? How might God answer that situation? How can we say God works all things together for good when life is so messy?
3. You are going through some difficult times, and a friend tells you, "Oh well, I'm sure every-thing will turn out all right." Is this encouraging? Why or why not? What would be a more Biblical response?

C@M Connect – logon to connect.martinsburgchurch.org and sign up for The Church at Martinsburg's online community. You can connect with

people in the church, groups, view the church calendar, see volunteer opportunities, and give online.

Important Dates

- 1/16/11 Community Groups Begin
- 1/19/11 Next Steps with The Church at Martinsburg
- 2/14/11 Valentine's Day on C@M
- 2/19/11 Group Leader Development @ NEC
- 2/26/11 Financial Planning Workshop

COMMUNITY GROUPS – *Community Groups* are groups of people who come together on a weekly basis to promote significant Christian relationships that are centered around the study of God's Word (Hebrews 10:24-25 and Romans 8:29). Groups begin on TODAY. Groups are available Sunday through Friday. **Sign up outside of the theater** – more information at www.martinsburgchurch.org.

CONTRIBUTIONS NOTICE

IRS regulations stipulate that you must have a copy of your contribution statement before filing your 2010 tax return. Statements are available at connect.martinsburgchurch.org in your profile. Additionally, they will be mailed by the end of January.

...to proclaim the Gospel and reach those far from God.