

Study Questions

“Where is God?”

Romans 8:28

Pastor Delbert Denny (South Suburban EFC)

- 1) **READ** Romans 8:26-30. In his message Pastor Denny stated the Lord is “*the God who provides certainty.*” Looking at the passage you just read, what are the things a believer can have certainty about? Do not limit your answer to verse 28. Do believers ever act as if they have uncertainty? **READ** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Hebrews 11:1, Colossians 1:5 and Romans 15:13. What certainty does God’s Word provide for us as believers?
- 2) In Romans 8:28 Paul says, “*And we know...*” In Greek grammar we would identify the word “know” as a perfect, active verb.¹ Some of your answer may have been covered in question one but what do “we know” according to verse 28? Would you agree that “*all things work together for good?*” In what situations would it be appropriate and inappropriate to attempt to encourage people with these words? If a situation is inappropriate to use these words does it mean Paul was not correct in how God works? Why would people sometimes struggle with these words?
- 3) Using Romans 8:28, how would you minister to someone who just lost their job or had a fire in their home? You must use this verse in the conversation so it’s important you explain what it means.
- 4) Rick Warren stated, “*God’s ultimate goal for our life is not comfort but character development.*” Does this statement make you uncomfortable as a Christian? Why would the Lord want to give you more character over more comfort? Would you be willing to ask the Lord to develop your character over your comfort? Is there anything that frightens you from asking this of the Lord in prayer right now?

¹ “We know” (Οἶδαμεν). Is *perfect* because its impact began at one point in time and continues into the unforeseen future. It is *active* because no matter which time frame you find yourself in it will always be true at that moment – never to fade away.

- 5) Romans 8:28 is not an all-inclusive verse for the entire human race. What are the stipulations placed on the one who walks in this certainty? If a group of your unbelieving friends or co-workers asked you to pray this verse over their lives how would you pray for them? Again, you must somehow use this verse in your prayer.