



## Mt Lebanon Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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*Making and Growing Followers of Jesus*

January 18, 2026

***“Nothing in all creation can separate us from God’s love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!”***

(CEV -Christian Contemporary Version - 1995)

Dear Church Family and Friends,

This Sunday we will study the last verses in Chapter Eight (8) of Paul’s letter to the Romans. These last verses contain so much to assure us that God has always, from the moment of our conception, been **‘for us;’** and has been and is still, continually at work in our lives to connect us with Him and to bring us into His Kingdom. (*Romans 8:31*)

I admit that while the message of the entire chapter is cause for great celebration, there are parts of it, mainly the *‘suffering being used for good’* part, that I struggle with. Maybe you do too? Suffering and God’s love don’t seem to go together, right?

This Sunday we will discuss how God leads us and strengthens us through the hard things and guarantees that we *will ‘be conquerors’* because of His Holy Spirit power and love that He will *‘pour out’* into us. (*Romans 8: 37; 5:5*)

Even though our main focus will be on verses 31 – 39, we will back up a bit to verse 28 and be reminded, by counting the many reasons Paul gives us here, why we can trust with certainty that God *does* love us and that God *is* with us, even when He allows us to suffer.

When we are struggling in the throes of grief or pain; anxiety or fear, Paul points us to the One who is always present with us and is always on our side in the battle.

Verses 37-39 keeps us focused on the resounding truth about God’s love: ***‘In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. I am convinced that death nor life, ... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.’***

Join us this Sunday for worship and study as we are reminded that God’s love for us and for the world is unwavering and full of power to fulfill His promise of salvation for us and for all of His creation.

Blessings in the name of the One whose love is steadfast and sure,

*Pastor Cinda*