
D-GROUP LEADERS GUIDE

OUR TEXT: Romans 8:35-39

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”

GOAL FOR THE NIGHT: As it has been from the beginning of this series, the goal of this teaching is to meet with God’s people in the middle of the week to encourage and strengthen them in the middle of truly challenging times.

The BIG idea we want to unpack tonight is twofold:

1. First, that tribulations, distresses and perils are part of every life; the believer and the unbeliever. The one that loves the Lord and the one who rejects the Lord; both must anticipate facing life’s hardships.
2. Second, that none of these things can separate the believer from the peace and confidence that comes in knowing we are loved by Christ. Bottom line; we want our people to shift their focus from all that is troublesome to the perfect love of Christ toward them.

HELP TO GET THINGS GOING: After watching tonight’s devotional together, here are some questions you can ask your group to get things going. As a good leader, don’t be afraid to call on people to answer, that way the quiet ones get a chance to engage, and the talkative ones don’t get the chance to dominate.

Q: Some believers seem to be spiritually and emotionally ready to face hardship. They seem unsurprised and are quick to face the troubles head on. Others seem shocked when their life becomes a challenge. They often fall into deep discouragement or even self-pity and often ask, *“Why me?”* Why is it important for every Christian to accept that tribulations, perils, and distresses will surely come?

Q: The big idea of the text tonight is simply that the incredible love of Jesus, as He intercedes for each of His children, cannot be broken, interrupted or diminished by any hardship in this life. Period! So why do you think so many believers are battling fear, insecurity and troubled hearts through this time of Covid-19 along with social and political unrest? What is it that makes this trial so hard on so many Christians?

Q: Our text says in v. 37 that *“in all these things we are more than conquerors”*. So specifically, how can the believer that might be battling fear, self-pity or a restless soul become “more than a conqueror”? What can a Christian do to be “in” the trouble, but not in any way overcome by the trouble?

OTHER THOUGHTS: This could be fun! Why not ask the group to “rate” how they are doing through these troubling times. Have them write a number between one and ten. “One” meaning that they are doing terribly, crippled with fear and feeling very far from the love and victory that is in Christ. “Ten” meaning they are doing awesome; no fear, totally in faith, unmoved by the troubles around them. Go around the room and let each person explain why they gave themselves that number. Then, spend some time praying for each other.