



Key References:

Romans 8:28 (ESV)

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

John 15:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

Isaiah 43:1 (ESV)

¹ But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

Philippians 3:13–14 (NIV)

¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

As people, we want to be “in the know” ... we long to be in control of our lives and the plans we make, but the reality is that we rarely are. **Share a time that you made plans, but things ended up going differently than you intended (for good or bad)?**

Read Romans 8:28. This verse begins with the words, “We know...” **What truths can we, as followers of Christ, know for sure that Paul reveals in this verse?**

1 – Called into Relationship

John 15:16 lets us know that the Lord initiated this relationship that we know have with him, though Jesus Christ - this is our ‘primary calling’ in life. **What are some of the practical ways you have found to tend to, and grow this relationship? What insights does John 15 give us regarding this? How do you struggle in this?**

2 – Called to His Purposes

In his sermon this weekend, Paul shared that, “*With relationship comes identity and with identity comes purpose*”, and that, “*the closer your walk [with God], the more evident your calling - or how God works out his purposes in your life - will be.*” **If our identity and purpose comes from Christ, does that make it easier or tougher to live according to God’s calling everyday?**

3 – Calling ... it’s a Journey and not a Destination

In the same way that having a wedding is not the conclusion of a growing relationship between a couple, our relationship with the Lord is a life-long journey. **How has your relationship with the Jesus changed though the years?**

Read Philippians 3:13-14. **Do you think the acronym “Fantastic Adventures In Trusting Him” is a fitting description for what our FAITH journey with the Lord is like? Why or why not?**