

Sermon Application/Discussion Questions – 1/14/2018
Sunday Message: Mark Prater – Romans 8:31-32
God Is For Us

1. We all live with unmet needs and uncertain prayers that can influence us to question whether God is really for us. What is one experience in your life as a Christian that led to a “crisis of belief” that challenged your convictions that God cares for you and is intimately involved in the details of your life?
2. In that situation, what helped persuade you that God was really for you? What did pressing into God look like for you when walking through that difficult time? Looking back at what you experienced and what you found helpful or unhelpful, how would you speak into someone’s life today who is struggling in similar ways and with similar hard questions?
3. God’s initiation of our salvation by not sparing his Son Jesus Christ but giving him up through the Cross proves the generosity of God, a powerful guarantee that he is for us. Sometimes, when dealing with disappointment, crushed dreams, and dissatisfaction in life, this truth may not bring comfort in ways we hope for. Maybe this is you right now. The truth of the matter is that unless our pursuit of joy is informed and built on a gospel foundation, dissatisfaction with life will take root in a discontent heart, which leads to sinful action, leaving us with a guilty conscience. This can in turn lead to hardness of heart if we ignore, excuse or minimize the sin. Interpreting everything that happens in our lives as actions of God’s refining mercy rather than manifestations of his judgment is the only hope we have in breaking this cycle of dissatisfaction. How might your disappointments become a means of rescue for you, considering the bigger picture of what God is planning to accomplish in your life through difficulty and your weakness?