

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. Romans 8:28-30 (NIV)*

## **Called**

**You have been called to live your life according to my purposes. I will guide you to fulfill my plans. My hand is on you. I will guide you. I will direct. I will use you.** What will I look like? Where will you guide me? What will you have me do? **Those are good questions. Let's start with your first question. You will look like my Son. It is your destiny to look and think and act like Him. Day by day, I will conform you to His image. I will mold and shape your life. I will give you new thoughts to think. I will give you new words to speak. I will give you new deeds to do. You will leave behind your old dark and sinful life that you once lived. You will live the new life that I have called you to live.**

**You are wondering where I will guide you? Yes, I am. You would like a road map to follow. You would like your course laid out neatly and completely before you. Yes, I would. That would not be good. Why is that? If I laid out a detailed and complete road map for your life you would react in two undesirable ways. How would I react? You would see the course of your life and turn away. You would run away. You would retreat. You would rebel. You would think that I have asked too much of you. You would say that I was asking the impossible. You would be partly right. I will ask too much of you. I will ask you to do the impossible. Why is that? I will do in and through what can only be done with my help. I will call you to come to rely on me. If I asked you to do only what you could easily do, would you come to rely on me? I suppose not. That brings us to the second reason why you will never receive a detailed road map from me. I'm listening. If I gave you a detailed road map for your life there would also be times when you would think that you could handle what is ahead without my help. Again, you would begin to rely on yourself. That is not what I want. That is not my plan. You will only live your life according to my call and purpose if you come to rely on me. Will you rely on me? Yes, Heavenly Father, I will rely on you every step of my life. I will go where you guide me. I will do what you ask of me. I will allow you to mold and shape my life down to the finest detail. Make me to look and think and act like your Son. **Yes, I will.****

*Heavenly Father, I am so thankful that you have called me to come to you. You have destined me to look and think and act like your Son. Mold and shape my life. Guide and direct my path. Lead to where you want me to be. Give me what you want me to do. Amen*

**God's Will***His Purpose*

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

NIV

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***His Purpose*

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

NLT

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***His Purpose*

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

NRSV

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***His Design And Purpose*

We are assured *and* know that [God being a partner in their labor] all things work together *and* are [fitting into a plan] for good to *and* for those who love God and are called according to [His] design *and* purpose. For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren. And those whom He thus foreordained, He also called; and those whom He called, He also justified (acquitted, made righteous, putting them into right standing with Himself). And those whom He justified, He also glorified [raising them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being].

AMP

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***His Purpose*

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

NASB

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***His Purpose*

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

ESV

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***His Purpose*

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

NKJV

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***Along The Same Lines*

That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good. God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him. After God made that decision of what his children should be like, he followed it up by calling people by name. After he called them by name, he set them on a solid basis with himself. And then, after getting them established, he stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what he had begun.

MSG

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***Fitting Into His Plans*

And we know that all that happens to us is working for our good if we love God and are fitting into his plans. For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him—and all along he knew who would—should become like his Son, so that his Son would be the First, with many brothers. And having chosen us, he called us to come to him; and when we came, he declared us "not guilty," filled us with Christ's goodness, gave us right standing with himself, and promised us his glory.

TLB

Romans 8:28-30

**God's Will***His Plan*

We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. They are the people he called, because that was his plan. God knew them before he made the world, and he decided that they would be like his Son so that Jesus would be the firstborn of many brothers. God planned for them to be like his Son; and those he planned to be like his Son, he also called; and those he called, he also made right with him; and those he made right, he also glorified.

NCV

Romans 8:28-30

# His Purpose

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**God's Will** – Romans 8:28-30

**In Context:** *Read Romans 8*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Romans 8:28-30 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

And | we know that | in all things | God works | for | the good | of those | who | love him, | who | have been | called | according to | his purpose. | For those | God foreknew | he also | predestined | to be | conformed to | the likeness | of | his Son, | that he | might be | the firstborn | among | many brothers. | And those | he predestined, | he also called; | those | he called, | he also justified; | those | he justified, | he also glorified. Romans 8:28-30 (NIV)

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Heavenly Father, I am so thankful that you have called me to come to you. You have destined me to look and think and act like your Son. Mold and shape my life. Guide and direct my path. Lead to where you want me to be. Give me what you want me to do. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**How has God been able to use even the most difficult painful trials to accomplish good things in your life?**

**When has it taken many years to look back to see how God brought good out of a difficult and painful trial?**

How did God call you out of your old life to come to live a new life of loving, following and serving Him?

How has God been using your life to accomplish His purposes and fulfill His plans?

What has God used to help you to think and speak and act more like His Son?

How has God used His word to change your thoughts, words and actions?

**How has knowing that God will bring good out of difficult and painful trails helped you to endure them?**

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow yourself to be transformed by God so that you will be able to think and speak and act like His Son.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will be able to bring good out of the most difficult and painful trials in life.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how God has brought good out of difficult and painful trials.

**Close With Prayer:** ***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you live your life according to the purposes of God.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will live my life according to your purposes.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I live according to your purposes today?*

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