

5 Questions that Could Change Your Life – Week 1 *Scripture & Background Info for the week of April 7th*

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD’S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

Romans 8:31 (NIV)

“What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

Context of Romans

Romans is the longest and most systematically reasoned of Paul’s letters. Paul announces its theme in 1:16–17: the gospel is God’s power for salvation, because it shows us that the righteousness of God is through faith for all who believe. Paul explains the need for justification through faith because of sin (1:16–4:25). He then spells out the results of justification by faith in terms of both present experience and future hope (5:1–8:39). In the next three chapters, he expresses his sorrow that many of his fellow Israelites have not embraced the gospel, and he wrestles with the theological implications of this (chs. 9–11). He concludes by describing how the gospel should affect one’s everyday life (chs. 12–16). Paul wrote his letter to Rome in about AD 57.

(ESV Study Bible)

Questions for Discussion

1. How do you feel when you hear the statement, “If God is for us”? What thoughts come to your mind? Do you think God is really for us or you?
2. How do you feel when you hear “who can be against us”? What sorts of things come to mind as being against us?
3. How does knowing God is for you and with you change the way you live your life every day? Is there something that you feel like God is calling you to that you’ve been afraid to do?
4. Chris mentioned 5 pictures that walk through the good news of Christ. As a group can you work together to put together those five pictures and the points they each are making?

- ***For this series, as a group make the challenge to weekly memorize the verse for each week. Check back next week with the group about 8:31.***