SERIES TITLE: VICTORIOUS
PART THREE: **OVER FRUSTRATION**
TEXT: ROMANS 8:18-27

INTRODUCTION TO STUDY

This chapter of Romans is one of the great mountain peaks in all Scripture. It expresses some of God's most wonderful promises and inspires grateful praise. Over four weeks we will explore these themes of victory, which is life as God intended.

CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE

In the previous section, Paul introduced the idea of *suffering* with Christ leading to *glorification* with Christ. Now he both encourages and instructs the Roman church on what such a life entails. Lest they think they are alone in their suffering, Paul shows them that they are part of an entire Creation that painfully anticipates the final redemption of a world broken by sin. Such anticipation is possible only through the power of the Holy Spirit.

FOCUS QUESTION

What are things that cause you to get frustrated and why?

EXAMINATION

vv.18-19 What are some of the "sufferings of this present time"?

To what does the "revealing of the sons of God" refer? (consider 1 John 3:2)

vv.20-23 How will creation be set free from its bondage?

Why do we "groan" even though we are reborn by the Spirit of God?

vv.24-27 In what way does the Spirit help when hope seems far away?

EXPLORATION

- Genesis 3:14-19
- Habakkuk 2:2-3

- John 14:15-21
- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
- Titus 2:11-14

APPLICATION.

- How can the truth of this passage keep us going when we experience suffering?
- Since groaning refers to vocalizing pain or grief, what are some ways we can groan in hope?
- What do you see as some of the obstacles that keep us from hoping in the glory to come?
- How does this passage impact your view of creation, both animate and inanimate?

SUMMATION

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?