



inseparable

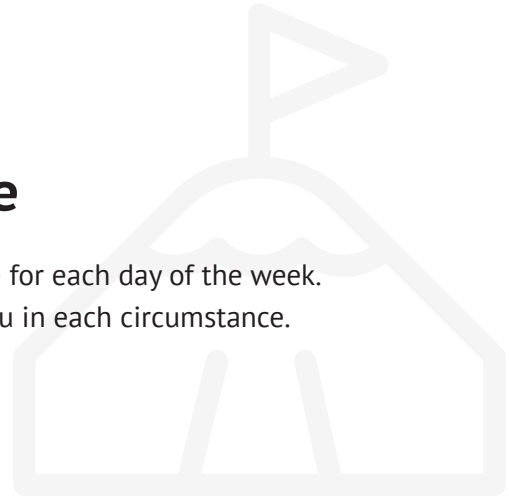
SUMMARY | We've all had moments when we've felt separated from God. Why is He silent? Where did He go? Does He still care? Why don't we have a present experience of His care? The apostle Paul experienced almost every circumstance possible that could create the experience of being separated from God: trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger, sword . . . and more. When he writes to the first-century Roman church—and to us in the twenty-first century Christian church—he holds that nothing can separate us from the love of God. We'll explore what Paul meant for those believers and for us as well as we take an in-depth look at Romans 8.

This Week's Discussion Questions

1. How would you define "separation from God"? How is Paul using this term in Romans 8:35?
2. Paul boldly states that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. What does this mean to you?
3. Consider trouble (general tough times of stress) and hardship (being in a narrow, pressed-down state). When have you experienced each? How has God's love been present for you in these moments?
4. Have you ever been persecuted (systematically harassed) for your faith? What did that experience look like? How was God present for you?
5. Consider the concept of famine, or being short of food. Have you experienced such a state? Read 2 Corinthians 11:1–12:10. How has Paul endured pretty much everything he describes that cannot separate us from the love of God? What does this mean about his testimony to us today?

Challenge

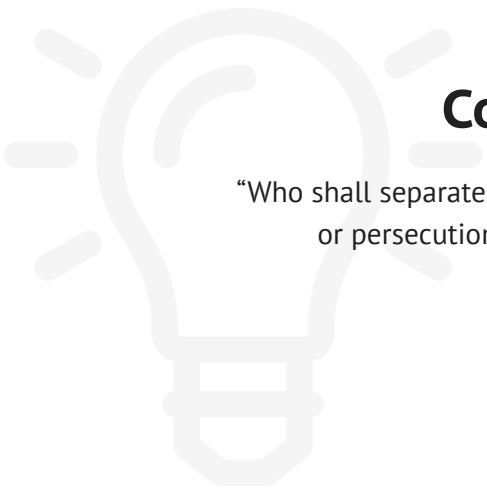
Consider each element of Romans 8:35, one for each day of the week.
Ask God to show you how He is loving you in each circumstance.



Commit To Memory

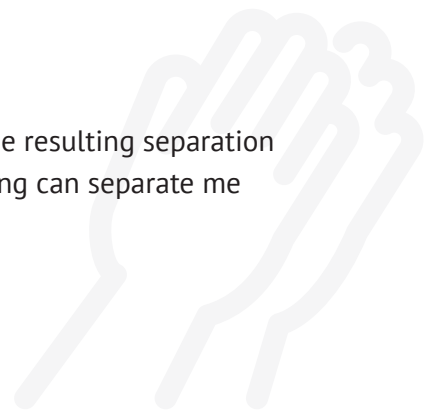
“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?”

Romans 8:35



Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your death on the cross and the resulting separation
You experienced from our Father so that today nothing can separate me
from the love of our God.
Amen.





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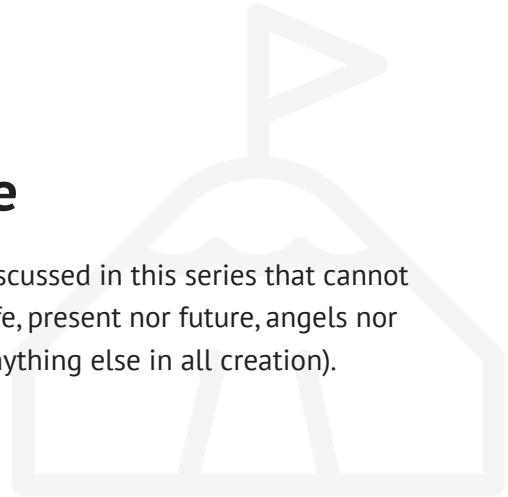
SUMMARY | Have you felt all alone lately? Cut off from feeling loved and valued? When Paul writes to the first-century Roman church—and to us in the twenty-first century Christian church—he holds that nothing can separate us from the love of God. In week 1 of our series, we looked at Romans 8:31–35, which included trouble, hardship, persecution, and famine. This week we’ll explore the rest of verse 35 with nakedness, danger, sword, and Paul’s summary of “anything else in all creation” (v. 39). We’ll discover together what Paul meant for those believers in his day, and for us as well, and we’ll take an in-depth look at Romans 8 to understand what it means to be inseparable from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

This Week’s Discussion Questions

1. In New Testament times, nakedness was not uncommon. Clothes were hard to come by and many people had only one garment. Today, we live in an age of abundance. But the experience of being unclothed then, and naked today, carried a sense of shame. Consider the role shame plays in your life and the fact that Paul illustrates how not even shame can separate us from the love of God. What does this mean to you? (See Romans 8:35.)
2. Read Romans 8:31–39. How might danger—a set of threatening circumstances—loom in order to separate you from the love of God? What does Paul say we should hold on to when we face danger?
3. When Paul talks about us not being able to be separated from God even by a sword—to be threatened with execution—what does he mean? What difference does this make in your life today?
4. Paul summarizes that nothing in all creation can separate us from God’s love; and he uses several contrasts: death nor life, present nor future, angels nor demons, any powers, height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation (Romans 8:38–39). Read 2 Corinthians 11:16–12:10. How do you know Paul’s conviction to be true from the life he experienced?
5. What have you learned about God’s love from this study?

Challenge

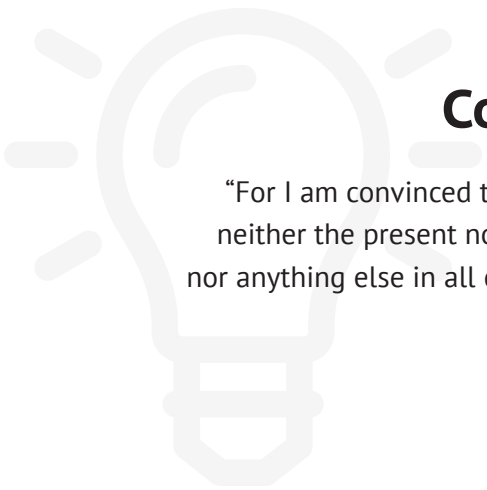
Each day this week, consider one element we've discussed in this series that cannot separate you from God's love for you (death nor life, present nor future, angels nor demons, any powers, height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation).



Commit To Memory

“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:38-39



Prayer

Thank you, Lord, that truly nothing can separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus my Lord!
Amen.

