

UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our website at vbc.online/events for more detailed information.
You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter by contacting admin@thecrossing.org.

- VBC Basketball League - Now Taking Sign-Ups
- Antioch Courses Start - Tuesday, September 17th
- Ladies AM Bible Study (LAMBS) Starts - Thursday, September 19th
- New Brighton Camping Connections Trip - September 18th - 22nd
- CityTeam: Feeding & Chapel Service - Saturday, September 21st
- Financial Peace University Starts - Sunday, September 22nd

- EncounterVBC (Newcomer Event) - Sunday, October 13th
- Henry Cowell Camping Connections Trip - October 17th - 20th
- Forensic Faith Conference - Saturday, October 19th @ 9am

GET CONNECTED

If you're new to VBC, we're glad you're here!
Scan the QR code below to download our VBC App and get connected:



You can also get information online at www.vbc.online/new-here

SONGS & SERMONS

- "Because of Your Love" - Paul Baloche and Brenton Brown
- "Nothing But the Blood" - Robert Lowry
- "All Creatures" - St. Francis of Assisi, William Henry Draper
- "Sovereign Over Us" - Bryan Brown, Aaron Keyes, Jack Mooring
- "Because He Lives" - Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither
- "I'll Fly Away" - Albert E. Brumley

To listen or watch today's message, visit www.vbc.online/media

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Operating Budget Need.....\$34,434.00
Y-T-D General Fund Need.....\$1,239,624.00

Giving Last Week.....\$46,635.00
Y-T-D Giving.....\$1,169,875.00

Text "valleybiblegive" 779-77 to give today.

Romans

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL THAT MAKES US RIGHTEOUS BY FAITH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE | MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MESSAGE NOTES

Life in step with the Holy Spirit-but we still suffer?

Romans 8:18-25

The pieces from 8:5-17:

The immediate response to our suffering with/for Christ – it's always worth it!

Rom. 8:16 *The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.*

A brief history of humanity & the earth as God sees it

Note Paul's "surprise" topic: the entire created order can't wait for the curtain to rise!

Rom. 8:19 *For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.*



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1. The past explains our current condition (20).

Rom. 8:20 *For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope*

a. What was the earth like before “emptiness”?

See Gen. 1:26-30

b. What happened to the earth & its inhabitants?

See Gen. 3:17-19

c. Why is humanity responsible?

Rom. 5:12 *Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—*

d. How do our lives reveal this emptiness?

2. The future provides hope for the present (21).

Rom. 8:21 *[in hope] that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.*

3. The present focuses on the future (22).

Rom. 8:22 *For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.*

So, would not we, God's children, also fixate on our future unveiling?

1. The presence of the Holy Spirit makes our future so enticing (23).

Rom. 8:23 *And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*

2. To know Jesus is to exist in hope (24).

Rom. 8:24 *For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?*

1Pet. 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

3. Our hope changes us: first with endurance, then our character (25).

Rom. 8:25 *But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

1John 3:1 *See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.*