

**“From Groaning to Glory!”
(Romans 8:19-27)**

As a result of sin and the fall (Genesis 3), we live in a broken world filled with suffering, and long for the day when God will make things right. In the meantime, God has graciously given us His Spirit to help us endure and to better understand the . . .

I. Groaning of the Creation (19-22)

- **Reason for** the Groaning (19-20)

- **Restoration from** the Groaning (21-22)

II. Groaning of the Christian (23-25)

- For the Promise **of Heaven** (23)

- For the Patience **of Hope** (24-25)

III. Groaning of the Comforter (26-27)

- In Our **Struggle** (26)

- In His **Strength** (27)

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: God’s natural creation is presently under the curse of sin, and yet it is still beautiful. Share about one of the most beautiful parts of God’s creation that you have enjoyed seeing.

1. Share something from Sunday’s study that spoke to you personally – a challenge? an encouragement? a good reminder? a question?
2. What’s the difference between groaning and complaining? Are there allowable times for both of these activities for the Christian?
3. Define/describe hope. How important is hope in our Christian lives? In discussing this be sure to consider Romans 8:24-25 and Titus 2:13.
4. How intimately is the Holy Spirit involved in our struggle against sin? How can we best work “in concert with” the Holy Spirit?

Digging Deeper

1. What do the following verses teach us about “waiting” for the Lord’s return: Rom 8:19, 23, 25; 1 Cor 1:7; Gal 5:5; Phil 3:20-21; 1 Thes 4:13-18; 2 Tim 4:8; and Tit 2:11-13?
2. What do you notice about these verses on the restoration and rejoicing of God’s natural creation: Ps 96:11-13; 97:1; Isa 35:1-2; 44:23; 49:13; 55:12; and 1 Chron 16:30-34?
3. Go back through Romans 8:1-27 and jot down ALL of the ministries of the Holy Spirit that you find in these verses. How do each of these affect you personally?

For Next Week

Read Romans 8:28-30 several times and write down each verse in your own words, making it as understandable as possible. How do these three verses fit within the context of 8:26-27 and 31-32?