



# CONNECT GROUP NOTES

## Sunday 11.02.2024

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“It’s all good”

### **Preacher**

Ps. Ben Naitoko

### **Scripture**

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Romans 8:28

### **Thought**

This verse was written by the apostle Paul to the Roman Christians. The Church in Rome was well acquainted with challenge and persecution, yet Paul reminds them that all things work together for good.

God will turn *all* things - even the mistakes we make - and work it for the good of us and of the kingdom. The temptation is to think that we exclude ourselves from God’s goodness when we make a mistake (or even intentionally make a choice against God’s will). We think we’re outside the grace of God, we wallow in self pity and condemnation. Yet God’s love is bigger than our decision making abilities. His promise is that *all* things work together for good, even our poor choices.

God also can bring good from the bad things that happen to us or those around us. Those challenges that come to us, not through choice or any poor doing of ourselves, but by the unforeseeable blindsides of life’s twists and turns. God’s promise remains; that all things work together for the good of those who love Him. It doesn’t mean that the challenge is good,



nor does it mean that God sent the challenge our way, but it means that God remains true to His nature in the midst of the hardest of times.

The only criteria for His goodness is to love Him. To lean into His heart, even in the midst of trouble, even when we don't understand, even when we feel distant or indifferent or numb. He remains good to us through the senseless times, when we fall short, when life just happens, when things are hard, when days are dark. He also remains good to us in the cheerful times, when life's good, when we revel in the wonder of life's beauty. His love persists, His character remains true, whether in valley or mountaintop.

We have hope in spite of our circumstances. Our hope is based in an almighty God who loves us and has good plans for our life. This is who He is, this is what He brings - goodness and purpose, in all things.

### **Discussion Points**

1. What are some Biblical examples of God's goodness even in the midst of poor decisions or difficult times? What does this say about the character of God?
2. Does this change how I view life's ups and downs?
3. What does this mean for me, in my current season and situation?

### **Personal application + Prayer**

Dear Lord,

I trust You through every season and circumstance. May I overflow with Your hope and be filled afresh with Your love. Teach me what it means to truly Love you, and to point others towards your Love, that the world may come to know the hope that only comes from a God who works all things for good.

Amen.