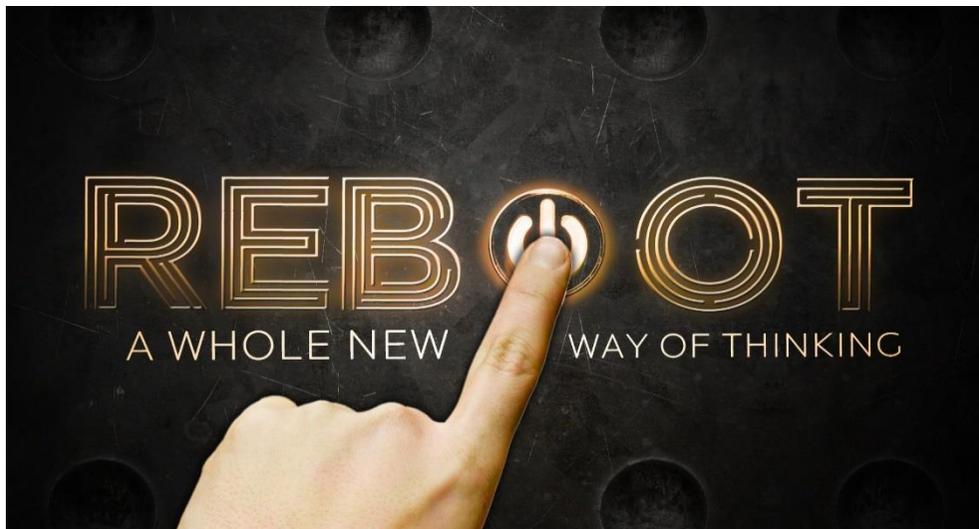


## Discovery Service Order and Message Outline



WELCOME TO CEC ..... Pastor Phill and Sara  
WORSHIP VIDEO..... He's coming on the clouds (Lion and the Lamb)  
PRAYER  
UPDATES ..... Pastor Phill and Sara  
MEDIA ..... Hope (From Psalm 33)  
BIBLE READING ..... Romans 8:1-39  
WORSHIP VIDEO..... Living Hope  
MESSAGE ..... Taught by Pastor Phill  
WORSHIP VIDEO..... Come behold the wondrous mystery



## Reboot #12 How to be optimistic in a negative world Romans 8:1-39

"If you search for good, you will find favour; but if you search for evil, it will find you!"  
Proverbs 11:27 NIV

### 1. I can be optimistic because I am \_\_\_\_\_.

*'Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus, the law of the spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.'* Romans 8:1-2 NIV

*"Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin."* Romans 7:24-25 NLT

### 2. I can be optimistic because I can have \_\_\_\_\_ of mind.

*"If your sinful nature controls your mind, there is death. But if the Holy Spirit controls your mind, there is life and peace."* Romans 8:6 NLT

### 3. I can be optimistic because of the coming future \_\_\_\_\_.

*"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."* Romans 8:18 NIV

*"And since we are his children, we will share his treasures—for everything God gives to his Son, Christ, is ours, too. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering."* Romans 8:17 NLT

*"For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. Against its will, everything on earth was subjected to God's curse. All creation anticipates the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay."* Romans 8:19-21 NLT

### 4. I can be optimistic because the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ me.

*"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express."* Romans 8:26 NIV

*"And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will." Romans 8:27 NLT*

**5. I can be optimistic because God is working everything for \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"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 NIV*

**6. I can be optimistic because God is on my \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31 NIV*

*"Since God did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't God, who gave us Christ, also give us everything else? Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? Will God? No! He is the one who has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? Will Christ Jesus? No, for he is the one who died for us and was raised to life for us and is sitting at the place of highest honour next to God, pleading for us. Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love?" Romans 8:32-35 NLT*

**7. I can be optimistic because Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ for me.**

*"Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us." Romans 8:34 NIV*

**8. I can be optimistic because God's love never \_\_\_\_\_.**

*'For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, nor 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 NIV*



SMALL GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION

1. Read Proverbs 11:27. How does this play out in daily life?
2. What does the word "optimism" make you think of? How does it make you feel? Be honest.
3. Is your attitude based more on what you see or what God says? How can you move toward the latter?
4. Which of the eight reasons to stay optimistic from Romans 8 comes hardest? Which comes easiest? Why?
5. Have you experienced pain that God repurposed for good? Share your story.
6. Pick one of the 8 Reasons you're least optimistic about. How would your life look different if you fully believed it?
7. Read these passages about Godly optimism. Psalm 103:11-13, James 1:2-4, Genesis 50:20, Psalm 27:1. Talk about what these passages say about optimism and how do they challenge you to be more optimistic?
8. "I'm optimistic not because of what I feel, not because of what I see, but because of what God says." How will you become more optimistic this week?



Watch and listen to the message again, or an archived message by going to [www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch](http://www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch).