



The Father Heart Of God | Enabling Freedom From Fear | Romans 8:1-17

1. Think back to Sunday 24 October when Laurence was speaking about *'The Father Delivering Us From Evil'*. What, if any, difference did his message make in your thinking and/or conversations around Halloween?
2. Romans 8:1 is described as *'the greatest sentence in the greatest chapter ever written'*. Do you agree or disagree? Can you think of any other sentences from literature (including the Bible) that could compete? Explain the reason for your suggestion(s).

Read: Romans 8:1-17 (or the whole chapter if you have time)

3. Discuss the heart-state of a slave. What part do punishment and fear play in creating this heart-state?
4. Where/how do you struggle with living more under condemnation than freedom in the Spirit? How does "living in the flesh" versus "living in the Spirit" play into your struggle—and what has Jesus done to remedy this?
5. To what extent do we deserve to live as slaves under constant fear of judgement? How does Romans 6 or 7 underpin such thinking? Pick out few key phrases from these Scriptures.
6. From Romans 8:12-17, share something that surprises, encourages, or challenges you.
7. What do you think Paul is trying to get across by contrasting a spirit of slavery and a spirit of sonship?
8. Look up the words of the hymn, *'And Can It Be'*. How has Charles Wesley perfectly captured the complex theology of Paul in Romans 8?
9. Is there a specific fear which you would love to experience freedom from? Share as you feel able. Is there a fear you can already say that you have experienced freedom from?
10. If you have time, discuss the application of Romans 8:31-39. How do these truths change situations in life and death?
11. Spend some time praying together about some of the things shared in Q9.