

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

Oct 31/Nov 1, 2015; If

Speaker:

Pastor Mark Batterson

Scripture Focus: Romans 8:37, 38-39

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed what it means to be “more than a conqueror.” These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion in your small group. Don’t feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don’t have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions:

In this message, Pastor Mark talked a lot about identity. Name a movie character or famous actor that you are most like.

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend’s message?
3. What was your biggest take away from studying Romans 8?

Specific Questions:

1. Romans 8:37 says, “We are more than conquerors.” Do you believe this in every situation of your life? If so, what does this mean to you? If not, what do you think is preventing you from seeing yourself the way God sees you? Are there specific situations in which it is more difficult to believe this than others? Why do you think this is?
2. Pastor Mark says, “You are more than conquerors.” What does it mean to be a conqueror? What do you think of when you hear the word conqueror? Oswald Chambers refers to being a conqueror in Christ as having “an inner unconquerableness.” What does this mean to you?
3. Pastor Mark shared that “our favorite Scriptures become the script of our lives.” What is your favorite life verse? Have you seen evidence of it becoming the “script of your life?”
4. In this message, we learn about the difference between pride and false humility. Pride is

believing something about yourself that is not true. False humility is not believing something about yourself that is true. Have you ever seen pride or false humility displayed in someone you know? What did that look like? What was the result of this person displaying pride or false humility? Have *you* ever displayed pride or false humility?

5. Pastor Mark states, “We are all princes and princesses (minus the tiaras),” because we are considered children of God. How does that make you feel? Have you ever thought of yourself as a prince or princess in Christ? If not, is there something else you think of that helps you remember yourself as a child of God? How do you think God defines you as his child?
6. Paul went through a lot of suffering. Jesus went through a lot of suffering. Pastor Mark reminds us that no matter what we’ve been through, we can overcome it. Have you ever felt like you’ve been stuck in a pit and can’t get out? What did you do in that situation? What is your response knowing that Jesus has overcome it for you and he has been through similar things?
7. Pastor Mark declares, “You are not defined by what others have done to you. You are defined by what Christ has done for you.” If we are more than conquerors, we can be convinced of Romans 8:38-39 that says, “*Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither 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.*” If God is for us, who can be against us? Is this something you are convinced of? Do you believe God is for you everyday in every way? Have you ever thought about a love that no amount of suffering can defeat, even death itself? If so, how is that expressed by the way you live your life? If not, what makes it difficult to believe?

Challenge:

- 1) Spend some time reflecting this week on your identity. Who or what do you let define you? If it is not God, spend some time thinking about what you need to do in your life to take the next step to becoming a conqueror.
- 2) Just as Pastor Mark shared his favorite life verse, he challenged us to find a favorite verse or book that we can make a part of our lives. This idea stemmed from F.W. Boreham’s book titled *Life Verses*. Pick a book in the Bible that forms your life and “anchors your soul to the promises of God” and start to read that book this week.
- 3) Memorize Romans 8:38-39 as a truth in your life:
³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[k] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither 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.