

NOTHING CAN SEPARATE

God's Love In Romans 8

Week #1

Love That Sets Us Free



CONTENTS

HOW TO LEAD YOUR YCI CLUB



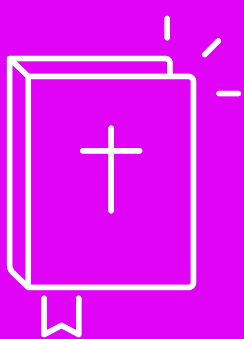
PLAY

Create a welcoming environment by playing a game together.



PRAY

Spend time praising and thanking God in prayer.



GROW

Learn from Scripture about who God says He is and how we should respond to Him.



GO

Look for opportunities to share the Gospel, and serve others in your community with your YCI club members.



TIPS FOR USING THIS CURRICULUM

1) FAMILIARIZE

Prior to your weekly YCI club gatherings, spend time reading the curriculum to make sure you understand the game and devotional. Leading is easier when you are well-prepared!

2) ORGANIZE

The "Grow" portion of the YCI Club Curriculum gives you the "pieces" for a devotional, but it is up to you to put the pieces together. You may want to give "Book, Hook, Look & Took" a try:

- 1) **Book:** Read the Bible verses.
- 2) **Hook:** Share a brief personal story or idea that relates to the Scripture.
- 3) **Look:** Share the context of the Scripture.
- 4) **Took:** Share the takeaways from the "Learn & Apply" section.

3) CUSTOMIZE

Since every YCI club is different, it is important that you modify this content to fit your context. If you need help with this, we encourage you to reach out to your club's Campus Mentor!



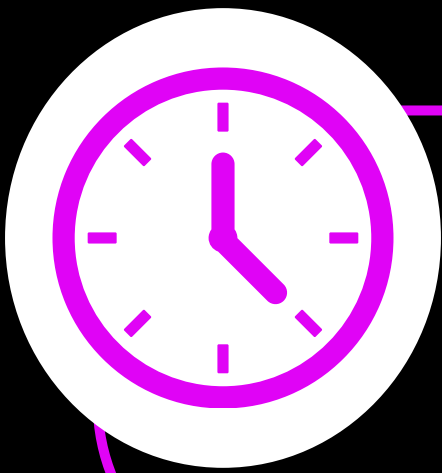
HUMAN KNOT

First, everyone in the YCI club should form a large circle. Next, everyone should grab two different hands of two different people in the circle, but they can not be the people standing directly to your left or right. Now that the "knot" of linked hands has formed, the goal is to "untie" the knot without disconnecting any hands. Since this is a group game, everyone will either win together or lose together. This process can be repeated for as long as time allows!



ASK GOD FOR HIS WILL TO BE DONE IN THESE AREAS:

CLUB TIME



Pray that God will speak to everyone in the room through His Word.

GROUP NEEDS



Take time to discuss and pray over the personal needs and requests of those in attendance.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY



Ask God to move in situations that are unique to your school and community.



WHERE WE'RE GOING

After encountering Jesus on the road to Damascus, Paul shifted from attacking Christians to dedicating his life to sharing Christ's message. Romans is the most robust explanation Paul gives of the Gospel, and it was written to a church experiencing significant division. Some believed that salvation was exclusively for Jews, and others believed **the truth** that Jesus offers a new way, available to both Jews **and** Gentiles.

In the "**Nothing Can Separate**" curriculum, we're going to take a closer look at Romans chapter 8 and discover that God's love is...

- 1) Love That Sets Us Free (Rom. 8:1-14)
- 2) Love That Makes Us Brave (Rom. 8:15-17)
- 3) Love That Gives Us Hope (Rom. 8:18-30)
- 4) Love That Never Leaves (Rom. 8:31-39)

Prayerfully, through this study, we will gain a deeper understanding of God's love so that we can deeply love one another!



ROMANS 8:1-8 (ESV)

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. **2** For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. **3** For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, **4** in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. **5** For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. **6** For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. **7** For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. **8** Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”



ROMANS 8:9-14 (ESV)

9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. **10** But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11** If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. **12** So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. **13** For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God."



THREE THINGS CHRISTIANS ARE FREE FROM

1) Condemnation

"There is therefore now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1). Condemnation, the enemy's tool to shame us for our sin, differs from conviction, where the Holy Spirit gently reminds us of our identity in Christ. As followers of Jesus, we are no longer bound by the weight of guilt and shame!

2) Sin

"**You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit**, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him" (Rom. 8:9). Jesus' love led Him to the cross, and we receive the Spirit through faith in Him. The Spirit empowers us, freeing us from the need to give into our sinful desires.

3) Death

"If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, **he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies** through his Spirit who dwells in you" (Rom. 8:11). Because Jesus conquered death, we no longer need to fear it. As Christians, death is simply the transition into an eternity of enjoying God's presence!



LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS (IF TIME ALLOWS)

QUESTION #1

What is one thing that "jumped out" to you while reading Romans 8:1-14?

QUESTION #2

Which of the three things that God's love sets us free from (condemnation, sin and death) resonated the most with you?

QUESTION #3

As a YCI club, what's something creative we can do this month to practically demonstrate God's love to people who don't know Him?



BEFORE YOU GO



BIG IDEA

God's love sets us free from condemnation, sin and death!



SHARING TRUTH

Who is someone in your life that needs to hear about what we discussed today? Pray for them, and find time this week to encourage them.



MEETING NEEDS

What is something your YCI club can do to show God's love this semester?



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