

HILLSIDE STUDENTS

BIGGER PICTURE | Romans 8:28

LEADER TOOLS

REMINDEERS: Take *ATTENDANCE!* Use the app & let us know who to add/remove!

GAME: 🕵️🧐 *PLAY Sherlock!* Everyone groups together. Each round, the player who is the detective will take 30 seconds to look at the group then leave the area. While they're gone, a change will take place (ex: two people change places, everyone unties their shoes). After the change, the detective comes back in and attempts to guess the change.

TOPIC OVERVIEW: Romans 8:28 promises that God works all things for good - but verse 29 defines what "good" means: being conformed to the image of Jesus. God's goal isn't our comfort; it's our transformation. Sometimes that happens through blessings, sometimes through suffering. Nothing is wasted in God's hands. Every hard thing we walk through can be used for something bigger than we can see right now. We can trust God's purpose even when we can't understand his plan! **Leaders**, share with your students how this verse has impacted your life, and how God has grown you in blessings and suffering!

ICE-BREAKERS:

- Would you rather: write all your papers in crayon, or only do math in pen?
- If you could talk to your pet, what would you ask?

MESSAGE DEBRIEF & BIBLE STUDY:

- **What stood out from the discussion?**
- How does knowing the context when reading the Bible help you understand the bigger picture?
- **Read Romans 8:28.** Does this mean Christians will experience only good things? Why or why not?
- How does knowing God has a purpose/plan bring you comfort in difficult times?
- **Read Romans 8:31-32.** Have you ever experienced something bad/difficult that God used for good? What was that like?
- How can we trust that God has a good plan, even when we don't see it yet?
- If someone was struggling to see that God is good, because times are hard, what would you say to help them?
- **Brainstorm:** What are some verses to memorize that bring you encouragement during difficult times?

DISCUSSION

READING PLAN

Join us as we read the New Testament in 6 months!

