

Our Prayer for 2026: *Dear Father, Help us to gather to proclaim Christ, and please use every LMAP member to play a part in bringing 20 people to faith in Jesus in each of our ministries and congregations across the year. To your glory. AMEN.*

Bible Talks Series Break-up: The Goodness of Suffering: Romans 8

Purpose of the Series: The purpose of this series is to help believers see how the gospel reshapes everyday life as we die with Jesus and rise with him everyday - and will rise with him for eternity.

Marketing Title of Series: The Goodness of Suffering: How Dying with Jesus Brings Life Every Day

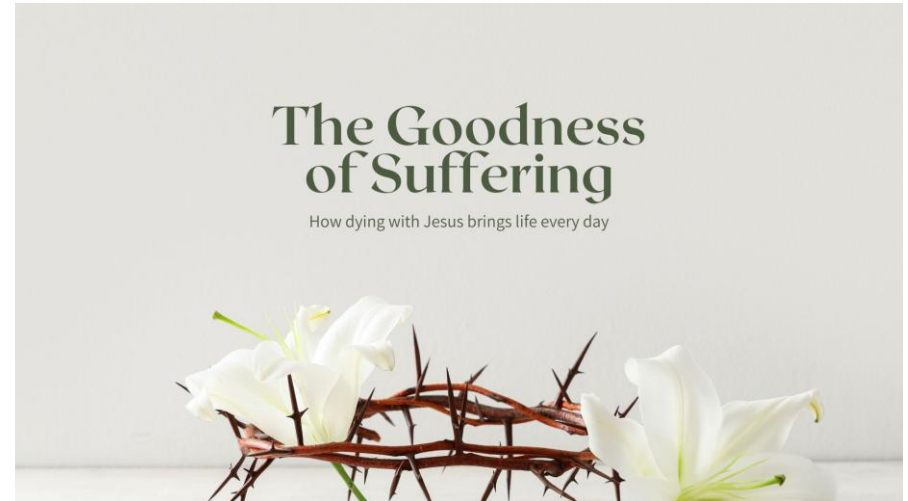
Handout Blurb for the series:

The Christian life is not a straight line of success, comfort, or ease. It follows the path of Jesus himself — down into death and up into life. In Romans 8, Paul shows us that to belong to Christ is to share in his story: dying to sin, letting go of fear, enduring suffering, and embracing weakness. Yet none of these “deaths” are the end. By the Spirit, God raises us again and again into freedom, sonship, hope, strength, and love. **Over five weeks, we’ll see how the gospel reshapes everyday life: every loss is met with God’s presence, every hardship draws us closer to Christ, and every dying leads us toward resurrection glory.**

Series Champion (*Ministry Team point person to oversee this series*): Nick Lindeback

The Purpose of this Document:

- To instruct the **Gathering Leader, Kids Spot Speaker, Band Leader, Song Chooser** and **Preacher** in shaping each church gathering as whole – so that we intentionally draw out what we are looking at in the Bible each week. It will also mean, that particular features which complement what we do as a church, are addressed.
- To assist **Growth Group Leaders** and **Friday Youth Leaders** (and other ministry leaders) to arrange their program most logically and effectively to work in with the Bible Talk Series. And further to point to resources which can be used to lead groups well.
- To help the **Gathering Planners** (i.e. those who organise the rosters), **AV Ministry Team, Social Media,** and **Office** to have the information that they need to do the roles that they do most fruitfully and efficiently.



Talk No.	Preachers <i>(note: Master is the Google Drive Version)</i>	Passage	Reading	Talk Title <i>(marketing friendly)</i> + Song Suggestions	Talk Topic/Focus/Purpose	Gathering Googly <i>(feature/consideration)</i>
<i>This block preached at Glenbrook 9am, 10.30am & 6pm (from 31st May to 28th June)</i>						
1. 31 st May 2026 CMS Mission Sunday	GB9:NL <i>(livestreamed)</i> GB9 Kids Spot: CMS Mission Spot GB10:30: NL GB10.30 Kids Spot: CMS Mission Spot GB6: NL <i>(Bible Talk recorded for Church Central)</i>	Romans 8:1-9	OT: Lam 3:1-24 (not at GB9am) NT: Romans 8:1-9	The One Who Suffered For Us Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits ● The Love of the Father ● Man of Sorrows ● Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone) ● Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery ● Be Thou My Vision 	Central Theme: There is no condemnation, Jesus has died and risen for us so we are forgiven forever. Application: We have been justified, we don't have to justify ourselves Challenge: We orient our lives from <i>self-dependence</i> to dependence on Jesus. <i>I want the listener to... rejoice in and depend on Jesus</i>	Mission Focus: CMS Mission Spot (> JH) Prayer Points to include: - CMS Sunday Prayer (see below) - Our CMS Missionaries - The CMS Lasting Hope Appeal
2. 7 th June 2026 Kings Birthday Long Wkend	GB9:NL <i>(livestreamed)</i> GB9 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (Annika N/RC) GB10:30: NL GB10.30 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (GO/RC) GB6: NL <i>(Bible Talk recorded for Church Central)</i>	Romans 8:10-14	OT: Lam 3:25-40 (not at GB9am) NT: Romans 8:1-14	Dying to Sin Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits ● Come Praise and Glorify ● Help Us See Christ ● O Praise The Name ● This Life I Live ● Made Alive ● Live For the Kingdom 	Theme: Sharing in Jesus' death and resurrection happens every day. Application: Each time we resist sin and submit to the Spirit, we participate in Jesus' death and rising to new life. Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>therapeutic</i> — try to fix sin with self-effort or self-soothing. <i>I want the listener to... see God's purposes and glory in their daily struggle with sin</i>	Prayer Points to include: - For the King and governments and all in authority
3. 14 th June 2026	GB9:NL <i>(livestreamed)</i> GB9 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (JO) GB10:30: NL	Romans 8:15-17	OT: Lam 3:41-58 (not at GB9am)	Sharing in Jesus' Sufferings Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits ● Rejoice 	Theme: We share in Jesus' suffering as we share in his glory. Application: Our hardships are not meaningless; they are God's intentional work, shaping us to share in Christ's glory.	GB9am, BBQ B.fast (a-GAPe guys raising funds for Bingarra) Lord's Supper (GB10.30 >TO)

<p>MARS Mission Sunday</p>	<p>GB10.30 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (JO)</p> <p>GB6: NL (Bible Talk recorded for Church Central)</p>		<p>NT: Romans 8:1-17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rock of Ages ● Undivided ● Christ Our Hope In Life and Death ● In Christ Alone 	<p>Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>avoidance</i> — suffering is something to escape or numb.</p> <p><i>I want the listener to... see God's purposes and glory in their everyday suffering and hardships</i></p>	<p>Mission Focus: MARS Mission (GB10.30am > NA)</p> <p>Prayer Points to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MARS Mission Refugees and those displaced around the World
<p>4. 21st June 2026</p>	<p>GB9:NL (livestreamed) GB9 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (Annika N)</p> <p>GB10:30: NL GB10.30 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (GO)</p> <p>GB6: NL (Bible Talk recorded for Church Central)</p>	<p>Romans 8:18-30</p>	<p>OT: Lam 3:58-66 (not at GB9am)</p> <p>NT: Romans 8:18-30</p>	<p>Resurrection Everyday</p> <p>Song Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kids Song: Jesus Strong and Kind ● Grace Alone ● Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me ● Before the Throne of God Above ● King of Kings 	<p>Theme: Even our weakest moments are drawn into Jesus' dying and rising, shaping us into his likeness.</p> <p>Application: In weakness and uncertainty, the Spirit intercedes and God works, conforming us to Jesus - mini resurrections.</p> <p>Mini Resurrections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In me where I am encouraged 2. In my circumstances where they improve 3. In others where they are encouraged 4. In others circumstances as they improve <p>Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>managerial</i> - suffering is something to be managed so that we can be productive, not God's means of productivity in our lives.</p> <p><i>I want the listener to... see and rejoice in God's work in their lives making them more like Jesus</i></p>	<p>Mission Focus: LMAP Women's Retreat (>Naomi N)/Base Camp (>PH)</p> <p>Prayer Points to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For Church families around the mountains in proclaiming Jesus
<p>5. 28th June 2026</p>	<p>GB9:NL (livestreamed) GB9 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (GO)</p> <p>GB10:30: NL GB10.30 Kids Spot: Holiday Club (GO)</p>	<p>Romans 8:31-39</p>	<p>OT: Lam 5:14-22 (not at GB9am)</p> <p>NT: Romans 8:31-39</p>	<p>Resurrection Forever</p> <p>Song Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits ● God Is For Us ● How Deep The Father's Love For Us 	<p>Theme: Jesus' death and resurrection guarantee that nothing can separate us from God's love.</p> <p>Application: Daily dying and rising are anchored in Christ's victory — our resurrection is certain.</p> <p>Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>success-driven</i> — security comes from winning, controlling, or achieving.</p>	<p>Mission Spot: LMAP Holiday Club (>RC)</p> <p>Prayer Points to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holiday Club Opportunities/invitations

	GB6: NL (Bible Talk recorded for Church Central)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It Was Finished Upon That Cross ● Hymn of Heaven ● Won My Heart 	<i>I want the listener to... face the struggles and joys of life with certainty and confidence</i>	
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This block preached at Mt Riv 9am, Blaxland 10.30am & 4.30pm (from 26th July to 23rd Aug)

1. 26 th July 2026	MR9: NL MR9 Kids Spot: ?? BL10.30: NL BL4.30: NL	Romans 8:1-9	OT: Lam 3:1-24 NT: Romans 8:1-9	The One Who Suffered For Us Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits ● The Love of the Father ● Man of Sorrows ● Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone) ● Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery ● Be Thou My Vision 	Central Theme: There is no condemnation, Jesus has died and risen for us so we are forgiven forever. Application: We have been justified, we don't have to justify ourselves Challenge: We orient our lives from <i>self-dependence</i> to dependence on Jesus. <i>I want the listener to... rejoice in and depend on Jesus</i>	Promote Square One Conf (MR>RC) Kids Church T3 starts back (MR) Prayer Points to include: Other LMAP Gatherings
2. 2 nd Aug 2026 MTC Mission Sunday	MR9: NL MR9 Kids Spot: ?? BL10.30: NL BL4.30: NL	Romans 8:10-14	OT: Lam 3:25-40 NT: Romans 8:1-14	Dying to Sin Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits ● Come Praise and Glorify ● Help Us See Christ ● O Praise The Name ● This Life I Live ● Made Alive ● Live For the Kingdom 	Theme: Sharing in Jesus' death and resurrection happens every day. Application: Each time we resist sin and submit to the Spirit, we participate in Jesus' death and rising to new life. Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>therapeutic</i> — try to fix sin with self-effort or self-soothing. <i>I want the listener to... see God's purposes and glory in their daily struggle with sin</i>	Mission Focus: MTC (BL4.30 > NA) Lord's Supper (BL10.30am > Kevin R) Prayer Points to include: Moore College
3. 9 th Aug 2026	MR9: NL MR9 Kids Spot: ??	Romans 8:15-17	OT: Lam 3:41-58 NT: Romans 8:1-17	Sharing in Jesus' Suffering Song Suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits 	Theme: We share in Jesus' suffering as we share in his glory.	Prayer Points to include: - Those grieving

	BL10.30: NL BL4.30: NL			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rejoice ● Rock of Ages ● Undivided ● Christ Our Hope In Life and Death ● In Christ Alone 	<p>Application: Our hardships are not meaningless; they are God’s intentional work, shaping us to share in Christ’s glory.</p> <p>Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>avoidance</i> — suffering is something to escape or numb.</p> <p><i>I want the listener to... see God’s purposes and glory in their everyday suffering and hardships</i></p>	- Mt Riv Redevelopment
4. 16 th Aug 2026	MR9: NL MR9 Kids Spot: ?? BL10.30: NL BL4.30: NL	Romans 8:18-30	OT: Lam 3:58-66 NT: Romans 8:18-30	<p>Resurrection Everyday</p> <p>Song Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kids Song: Jesus Strong and Kind ● Grace Alone ● Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me ● Before the Throne of God Above ● King of Kings 	<p>Theme: Even our weakest moments are drawn into Jesus’ dying and rising, shaping us into his likeness.</p> <p>Application: In weakness and uncertainty, the Spirit intercedes and God works, conforming us to Jesus - mini resurrections.</p> <p>Mini Resurrections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In me where I am encouraged 2. In my circumstances where they improve 3. In others where they are encouraged 4. In others circumstances as they improve <p>Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>managerial</i> - suffering is something to be managed so that we can be productive, not God’s means of productivity in our lives.</p> <p><i>I want the listener to... see and rejoice in God’s work in their lives making them more like Jesus</i></p>	<p>Mission Focus: LMAP Women’s Retreat (>Naomi N)/Base Camp (>PH)</p> <p>Prayer Points to include: For Church families around the mountains in proclaiming Jesus Give thanks for the LMAP Women’s Retreat</p>
5. 23 rd Aug 2026 BCA Mission Sunday	MR9: NL MR9 Kids Spot: BCA Mission BL10.30: NL BL4.30: NL	Romans 8:31-39	OT: Lam 5:14-22 NT: Romans 8:31-39	<p>Resurrection Forever</p> <p>Song Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SERIES SONG IDEA: Creation Awaits ● God Is For Us ● How Deep The Father's Love For Us ● It Was Finished Upon That Cross 	<p>Theme: Jesus’ death and resurrection guarantee that nothing can separate us from God’s love.</p> <p>Application: Daily dying and rising are anchored in Christ’s victory — our resurrection is certain.</p> <p>Challenge / Contrast: Our instinct is <i>success-driven</i> — security comes from winning, controlling, or achieving.</p>	<p>Mission Focus: BCA (all gatherings > David T)</p> <p>Prayer Points to include: Bush Church Aid (see prayer below)</p>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hymn of Heaven ● Won My Heart 	<i>I want the listener to... face the struggles and joys of life with certainty and confidence</i>	First Nations Prayer (see below)
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Key: MR = LMAP Mt Riv; BL = LMAP Blaxland; GB = LMAP Glenbrook; KDN = Ken Noakes; RC = Rachael Connor; PH = Paul Hallam; NL = Nick Lindeback; JH = Julie Haddon; GO = Gail Oakey; NA = Neil Atwood; TO = Trevor Oakley; JSh = Josh Schroder; OB = Olivia Bush; JB = Jared Bartlett; JE = Jake Evans; GBH = Gary Haddon; AC = Andrew Cox; DSw = Dave Swan; PC = Phil Coghlan; JLav = John Lavender; KR = Kevin Russell; DC = Dave Catto; BCA = Bush Church Aid; MTC = Moore Theological College; CMS = Church Missionary Society; DLS = Daylight Savings; YA = Young Adults; MARS = Mountains Anglican Refugee Support; CBM = Western Sydney Uni AFES Group

Gathering Leader & Preacher:

- To help make your role as the Gathering Leader as effective as possible - go to '**LMAP Gathering Support**' ([here](#)). This is a one stop shop to help you with resources to construct a meaningful and organised Sunday Gathering.
- Take special note of the suggestions in the 'Gathering Googly' column. This detail should be kept in mind as you lead or preach. Gathering leaders, *if scheduled into the elvanto plan*, you will need to make arrangements to incorporate this aspect into the gathering.
- Please note there is a visual Powerpoint template which we would prefer that you used so that we have some consistency across what we display (and so that we avoid some traps e.g. colours that cannot be seen, text too small, fonts too difficult, text which covers set logos, livestream split screen requirements etc.). This template exists on the LMAP Gathering Support Site (as mentioned above) - and can be emailed to you on request (admin@lmap.org.au) .

Devotionals or Bible Study (for the benefit of Growth Group Leaders):

- Nick Lindeback *The Goodness of Suffering (5 Studies - with Leaders Notes and Participant Booklets)* available on Church Central Online and 'LMAP Gathering Support'.

Commentary/Book suggestions (for the benefit of Growth Group Leaders and Preachers):

- Paul E. Miller, *J-Curve - Dying and Rising with Jesus in Everyday Life*. Crossway, 2019. - this will be mentioned at the start of the series
- John Stott, *The Message of Romans*. BST, Leicester: IVP, 1994, ch 11. Also John Stott in *The Cross of Christ* (esp. Ch 13) gives a helpful treatment on cross shaped endurance.
- F.F. Bruce, *Romans*. Tyndale, Grand Rapids: Eerdmanns, 1985 (revised), pp. 148-171.
- Douglas J. Moo, *The Epistle to the Romans*. NICNT, Grand Rapids: Eerdmanns, 1996, pp 467-547.
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*. London: SCM Press, 1937, translated 1948, 59, Ann Ed 2015.

Online Bible Reading

- Immanuel Worship, Romans VIII Live - <https://www.immanuelworship.com/romans-viii-live>

Liturgical Prayers for the Gatherings

- **A Prayer for CMS** (to use on Sunday 31st May - which is CMS Sunday)

God of love, whose will it is that everyone should be saved, bless the Church Missionary Society and those who have gone out in its fellowship to preach, to teach and to heal. Guard, guide and use them; Raise up more people in your worldwide church to pray and to work, to care and to understand, to give to you and to go for you, that your church may grow, your will be done, your kingdom come, and your glory be revealed: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

- **Prayer in Acknowledgement of Country** (to use at the beginning of our Gathering or to include in the Prayer on Sunday 23rd Aug – which is BCA Sunday)

Our Lord and loving heavenly Father, we acknowledge that you are Creator of all that is. We acknowledge that in your Providence you gave custodianship of the land upon which we meet to the Dharug and Gundungurra people. We acknowledge with sorrow the painful history between the Aboriginal people and the later settlers of this land, and we pray that you may work between us for the réconciliation that is the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

- **A Prayer for BCA** (to use on Sunday 23rd Aug - which is BCA Sunday)

Lord our God, help us to remember those who live in isolated and remote parts of our land.

We ask you to strengthen and encourage all whose ministries are supported by The Bush Church Aid Society. Refresh them in times of discouragement and loneliness and call others to stand with them in the task of making Christ known.

Grant that, through the ministry of the Word, through caring service and by support for young people, the message of your redeeming gospel may be proclaimed and accepted by the people of our land. We ask these things through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.