**FOCUS Bible Study - March 29**

[**VIEW RECORDING - 90 mins (No highlights)**](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc)

**Meeting Purpose**

[To study and discuss the biblical concept of predestination and its implications for free will and relationship with God.](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=3.0)

**Key Takeaways**

* [Predestination refers to God's foreknowledge and plan, not a removal of human free will](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=552.0)
* [God invites us to participate in His plan through our choices, desiring relationship](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=1912.0)
* [Salvation is equated with having a committed relationship with God](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=2424.0)
* [Ongoing repentance and choosing God maintains the relationship/salvation](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=2424.0)

**Topics**

**Biblical Basis for Predestination**

* [Word "predestinate" appears only 4 times in Scripture (KJV)](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=540.0)
* [Romans 8:28-31 is primary passage on predestination](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=677.0)
* [God's foreknowledge allows Him to work all things for good](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=768.0)
* [Predestined to be conformed to image of Christ](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=888.0)

**Free Will and God's Sovereignty**

* [Humans have measure of free will to choose/reject God](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=1898.0)
* [God knows choices we'll make but doesn't force them](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=1898.0)
* [Ezekiel passages show righteous can turn wicked & vice versa](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=3961.0)
* [Ongoing choice to follow God maintains relationship/salvation](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4464.0)

**God's Purpose in Predestination**

* [To have deep relationship with humans](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=1912.0)
* [To clothe believers in Christ's righteousness](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=2812.0)
* [To give an "expected end" - the thing God longs for (relationship)](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4151.0)
* [Not about forcing salvation, but inviting participation](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=1912.0)

**Practical Implications**

* [Should surrender choices to God's will/guidance](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=1912.0)
* [Relationship with God grows through ongoing choices](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4464.0)
* [Sin doesn't automatically end relationship if we repent](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4464.0)
* [God always thinking of us, desiring relationship](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4622.0)

**Next Steps**

* [Participants to reflect on how lesson impacts their view of relationship with God](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4707.0)
* [Review full Romans 8 for context](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=677.0)
* [Apply concept of ongoing choice for God in daily life](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4464.0)
* [Pray for various requests shared by group members](https://fathom.video/share/U7s1CWzqWWPJvsW8QDBLv-9Snz6xymLc?tab=summary&timestamp=4966.0)