

Seeing God Through Your Pain and Suffering

Lesson Three

"Out of pain and problems have come the sweetest songs, and the most gripping stories."

Billy Graham

Jesus told us pain and suffering would be a part of our lives.

"I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart because I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

LEARN TO EXPERIENCING PAIN WITH A PURPOSE

Pain Is A Normal Part Of Life.

For THIS IS COMMENDABLE, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. I Peter 2:19-20

"Don't pray for an easy life, pray for the strength to endure a difficult one."

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

God sees all the trials that await us in this life.

2 Corinthians 12:8-10, God's grace is sufficient for me, for His power is perfected in weakness...for when I am weak, then I am strong.

Romans 8:28 (NKJV), And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them (NLT).

"When times are difficult, remind yourself that no pain comes to you without a purpose."



I. DIRECT YOUR PAIN TOWARDS GOD AND DRAW NEAR TO HIM.

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. James 4:8

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

Psalm 34:18

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." Psalm 147:3

Il Corinthians 1:9 (LB), 'We felt we were doomed to die and saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; but that was good, for then we put everything into the hands of God, who alone could save us...'

"You'll never know that God is all you need until God is all you've got."

II. FILL YOUR LIFE WITH GOD'S WORD AND GOD'S PEOPLE.

Psalm 119:103, "How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey."

Psalm 34:8 (KJV), O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusted in him.

Jeremiah 15:16 (KJV), "Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts."

Two Reasons Why You Need Godly People in Painful Situations:

1.YOU REMAIN SHARP

Proverbs 27:17, As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.

2. YOU GET THE SAFETY OF WISE COUNSEL

Proverbs 11:14, Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

III. DON'T BE FILLED WITH WORRY, OVERFLOW WITH WORSHIP.

I will sacrifice a freewill offering to you; I will praise your name, Lord, for it is good (Psalm 54:6). But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you (Jonah 2:9).

Worshipping Through Pain and Trials Is Powerful for Three Reasons:

1. It Encourages Your Soul.

Psalm 34:1-3 (KJV), I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me and let us exalt his name together.

2. It is Prophetic.

I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living (Psalm 27:13).

3. The Enemy Flees.

"The Father of Lies is no match for the Father of LIFE."

IV. TRUST GOD TO TURN YOUR SORROW INTO JOY.

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV), looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Our Pain and Suffering Will Not Last Forever.

Jesus willingly suffered the greatest pain because He knew the end of the story, and so do we.

Revelation 21:3-4, And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid."

John 14:27

"And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:20

"You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf."