

Thankful for My Trials

Station 2

Luke 9:22 (ESV) 22 saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

1 Pet. 5:10 (ESV) 10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

1Ths. 5:16-18 (ESV) 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

John 16:33 (ESV) 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

Matt. 26:39 (ESV) 39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

Admit it, just like everyone else, you want a life without the regular trials and storms we all experience. It is easy to thank God for the victories and wins in our lives, but how many times do we thank God for that job we did not get, that breakup we went through, or whatever situation it may be? Jesus takes us through storms so that we can draw near to Him in faith, obedience or even trust.

Think of this: even Jesus asked His Father if there was any chance to avoid the trials and sufferings he was going to live through after He was arrested! Usually we cannot avoid the difficult things in life, but it would have been effortless for Jesus to use His Godly power to avoid being betrayed, arrested, unjustly tried, tortured, mocked, separated from His Father, and crucified until death. He chose to endure these trials because of His love for you and His obedience to the Father. His obedience changed the world, brought life where death ruled and broke the curse of sin.

God can also use our trials as a testimony to encourage the lives of others. Jesus through the biggest trial of His life trusted His Father because He knew God had a purpose. God is intentional and has a purpose for every situation that happens in your life. God knew that He had to let His only son die for your sake. If Jesus did not die on the cross for our sins we could only imagine where we would be today.

AS YOU GO FROM HERE:

Write down or share a story of a trial or storm that happened in your life. Think about why you might have had to go through your trial. Write down or discuss what you learned from that trial. What was God telling you?

In a poem form, write a prayer thanking God for your trial. This poem must have 2 words that rhyme.

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