

Date:

Podcast Worksheet
Finding our Way Through Adversity: Is God Good Even in the Midst of Tragedy?

Scriptural Text:

Psalm 41:9; Jeremiah 4:18; 10:6; 31:3; Lamentations 3:19-26; Nahum 1:7; Habakkuk 3:17-19; Philippians 4:6-7, 12-13; 1 Peter 5:8

Main Points:

1. The more we know about God, the stronger our spiritual roots will grow.
2. Believing God is powerful, loving, kind, and cares about your life will help during the hard times.
3. Standing firm on the truth of God's Word will help us navigate times of adversity.
4. 4 reasons why we suffer:
 -) Sin: Sometimes we're suffering because of our own poor choices. God's grace and mercy is guaranteed, even if we've gotten ourselves into a bad situation.
 -) Proudful choices of others: Some adversity is the result of sinful choices made by others.
 -) Satan: The enemy is often the culprit for delivering trouble to us.
 -) Reasons we can't see: There will always be situations where we can't identify a cause or reason. We don't have God's mind, so we will never understand everything.
5. Our faith will do much better if we don't blame God for what we or others have done.
6. Even if we don't have answers, never insert a false belief as a way of resolving the mystery.
7. Believing lies about God will lead to fear and separate us from him (but not him from us).
8. We should expect to experience adversity. Everyone does.
9. Adversity can bring benefits: deeper spiritual roots, greater experience with God's love, knowing more of his ability and desire to help us, more intimacy with him, learning to live in victory.
10. Tips that help in hard times: Pray and express gratitude and thankfulness for God's love and help, for life and hope, etc. Accept God's plan for your life.

Questions:

1. What is your fallback list, the things you know without doubt that are true about God and his relationship with you?

2. Read point #4. How have you suffered because of some of these things?

3. Share about blessings you've received during times of adversity.

Prayer of Response:

Lord God, I need your help when I am experiencing times of adversity. Help me stand on foundations of truth, not doubting you or maligning your character. Help me trust that you are always good. I want to accept your plan for my life, even when it is a difficult plan. In Jesus name, amen.

Commitment: After prayerful meditation on this podcast, I am going to _____
