

# THE BIBLE DOESN'T SAY THAT

“Everything Happens For A Reason”

📍 New Life Christian Center  
September 24, 2023  
Pastor David Larson | Turlock  
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

Romans 8:28 (NLT)

1. In God's plan for me, \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT)

• \_\_\_\_\_

The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. Genesis 3:6-7 (NLT)

• \_\_\_\_\_

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5 (NLT)

In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. 1 Peter 5:10 (NLT)

2. God is \_\_\_\_\_ in my \_\_\_\_\_.

“Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” John 16:33 (NLT)

• Pain is a \_\_\_\_\_

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold - though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. 1 Peter 1:6-7a (NLT)

We may weep through the night, but at daybreak it will turn into shouts of ecstatic joy. Psalm 30:5b (TPT)

• Pain can serve God's \_\_\_\_\_.

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. Romans 5:3-4 (NLT)

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Romans 8:28 (NLT)

## 1. In God's plan for me, NOTHING is WASTED.

So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT)

- CHAOS

The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. Genesis 3:6-7 (NLT)

- CHOICES

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5 (NLT)

In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. 1 Peter 5:10 (NLT)

## 2. God is PRESENT in my PAIN.

“Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” John 16:33 (NLT)

- Pain is a PROCESS.

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold - though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. 1 Peter 1:6-7a (NLT)

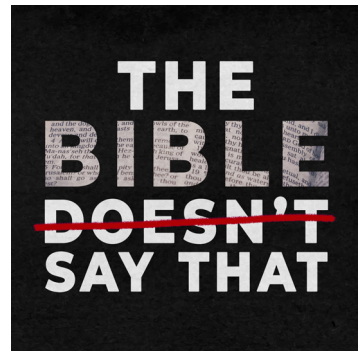
We may weep through the night, but at daybreak it will turn into shouts of ecstatic joy. Psalm 30:5b (TPT)

- Pain can serve God's PURPOSE.

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. Romans 5:3-4 (NLT)

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

September 24, 2023



WEEK 4

“ Everything  
Happens  
For A  
Reason ”

## [CONNECT]

Have you ever had something happen in your life to which someone has said to you, “Well...everything happens for a reason.”? How did it make you feel in the moment?

## [ENGAGE]

What stood out to you from this weekend’s message?

## [GROW]

Read Romans 8:28. Discuss what you believe Paul is meaning in this declaration to the Roman people, and to us.

The “why” behind our suffering and our pain is because of the following. Discuss the two reasons below, and give examples of how each has affected your own life.

- Our world is chaotic (broken, sinful, and fallen)
- Choices (Either ours...or someone else’s)

The “how” to get through our suffering and pain, and knowing “who” is walking with us, is so much more important than focusing on the “why”. Discuss the three things below that we should know about the “how.”

- God is present in my pain
- Pain is a process
- My pain can serve God’s purpose

Read Romans 5:3-4

Do the painful things in our life happen for a reason? Absolutely not. However, nothing is wasted. God doesn’t cause our suffering and sorrow... but in it... nothing is wasted. “God causes ALL things to work together for my good...”

## [LEAD (YOURSELF)]

Ask yourself, “What if I begin to shift my focus on the ‘how’, instead of the ‘why’ in regards to my pain and suffering?

Pray, “Heavenly Father, I believe you are present in my pain. Help me to go through the process of dealing with my pain, and let it serve YOUR purpose for my life. There was no reason for what happened, but you’re not going to waste it...because nothing is wasted. I surrender it over to You. Amen.”