



Series: Promises

Sermon: Part 9: Do All Things Really Work For Good?

Date: Sunday, August 27th, 2023

How do we face the setbacks of life?

God being _____ means that He is the ultimate in power and authority.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)

2 Main Perspectives Of Suffering

1. For a non-believer: This world shouldn't have any pain or suffering resulting in despair, anger, bitterness

2. For a follower of Jesus: We will face suffering in this world because we live in a sinful world, but suffering is not something to be avoided, but to be embraced

"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

If God works in all things that means that He works in both the big and the small things, the good and the bad things, the mountaintops and even in the deepest and darkest valleys.

This Scripture is not saying that "*all things*" that happen in our lives are good.

This Scripture is saying that God uses "*all things*" _____ our good.

Do All Things Really Work For Good?

1. God working for our good is not something that applies to all people but only to those that love and have a relationship with God.

"Whoever has My commands and keeps them is the one who loves Me. The one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love them and show Myself to them." (John 14:21)

2. God working for our good only applies to those who have been called according to His purpose.

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts... (Romans 1:24)



For believers, the good we experience in life is a gift, a blessing from _____.

“There is a common maxim that applies here: ‘The same sun that melts wax, hardens clay.’ In other words, what makes a life “good” is not a particular set of circumstances but how the heart interacts with them ... this is a major principle for understanding and living life.” (Pastor Tim Keller, Redeemer City to City)

For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified. (Romans 8:29-30)

...love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35, 38-39)

Suffering should never drive us away from God, but rather suffering should drive us _____ God.

Bottom Line: *In all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)*

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

- 1. What setbacks have you faced? What circumstances are not going your way or didn't go your way?*
- 2. How do you typically respond to and face these circumstances?*
- 3. How can your setbacks, failures, and hopelessness be invitations for you to lean in even more on God?*

Songs used in service: Won't Let Me God (Sanctus Real), Jireh (Maverick City Music & Elevation Worship), Make a Way (Elevation Worship), Battle Belongs (Phil Wickham)

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Any prayer requests?

Name: _____ **Email (so we can follow up):** _____

What can we be praying for you about?