

Why bad things happen to good people.

It's easy to praise God when things are going good in our lives, but the sign of a true Christian is how we react when things are not so good. When it seems like your world is falling apart and God seems to be ignoring your prayers. Sometimes you can't help but wonder... "What have I done to deserve this? I try to be a good person, I go to church, I read my bible, I pray. What else do you want from me Lord?"

Read Job 1 and 2

Job was a good man, but God allowed Satan to test Job's faith. Satan was sure that if Job suffered loss, he would turn against God, but he didn't.

Consider vs 21 in chapter 1. How would you have responded if you had been Job? What needs to happen in our walk with the Lord so we can respond more like Job?

Read James 1: 1 - 4

What is your first thought when a trial comes your way? What is your default reaction? James says we need to change our attitude about trials. How can you change yours?

Christians make the mistake of believing that by being Christian that you are exempt from the hard times that come with every day living, that by being Christian we won't experience loss or heartache. In actuality, a big part of being Christian is how we choose to deal with life's curve balls. Do we give up on God or do we allow our setbacks to draw us closer to Him?

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-6

How do these verses help us view our struggles differently? Consider the trials you have faced. Is there someone who could be strengthened by the story of your experience?

This week, pray for the ability to handle struggles better and pray for God to show you who you can encourage by your own history of trials.

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You Asked For It

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Pastor Rick Rufenacht



Bad things happen because...

We live in a fallen world.

Gen 3:1-19

We live in a world of sin.

2 Sam 11:14 - 17

We have choices.

Our response

Bad things can help us grow.

James 1:1-4

Bad things help us trust God.

Job 1:8-12

Bad things happen to help us minister to others.

2 Corinthians 1:3-7