

“When Life Stinks”

Romans 8:28-29

December 30, 2012

“In this world you will have trouble . . .” John 16:33

❖ WHY ALL THE TROUBLE?

- Difficulty Silences Satan.
- Difficulty Builds Belief.
- Difficulty Glorifies God.

❖ WHEN LIFE STINKS . . .

1. RELY ON GOD'S PROMISE TO YOU.

“And we know that all things work together for good . . .” Romans 8:28a (NKJV)

❖ The condition of it. “And we know . . .”

“Those who accept My commandments and obey them are the ones who love Me. And because they love Me, My Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.” John 14:21 (NLT)

“But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.”
1 John 2:5 (NKJV)

❖ The certainty of it. “And we know . . .”

“Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.” 1 Corinthians 13:12 (NLT)

❖ The completeness of it. “And we know all things work together for good . . .”

“It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.” Psalm 119:71 (NIV)

“But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.” Genesis 50:20 (NKJV)

“For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God’s discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in His holiness. No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it’s painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.” Hebrews 12:10-11 (NLT)

2. REST IN GOD'S PROVIDENCE OVER YOU.

“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 (NIV)

3. REACH FOR GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU.

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.” Romans 8:28-29 (NKJV)