Where Is God When Life Gets Tough? *Our Response when Life Hits the Fan...* First Christian Church—May 3, 2020 Chuck Foreman, Teaching/Missions Pastor

Typhoons, Earthquakes, Enemies, Disease, Demons, Evil, Cults & Heat Rash...

GOD's Story– Our Response when Life Hits the Fan...

• In Natural Disasters—2 Chronicles 7:11-22

- □ Question: Is God trying to get our/my attention?
- □ Response: Look to Him—Look within.

• In Persecution—

- □ Jesus Words to Us—John 16:21-22, 33
- □ Early Christian Experience— Acts 4:18-31
- God will increase my joy, my peace my boldness and my faith!
- □ 1 Peter 4:19 I commit myself to God and keep doing good!

• God is Working!—

□ Jesus' Experience— John 5:16-19

 \Box <u>1st Question</u>: Not, Why is this happening to me? But, What is God up to?

- o CV Crisis: (1) He wants us to look to him for everything!
 - (2) He wants to expand the US Xian's view of church...
 - (3) He wants us to learn new ways of serving & connecting...
- □ John 5:17 We join God in his work, doing good, just as Jesus did.
- $\hfill\square$ Romans 8:28 We are confident that God is working for our good.

Big Idea:

No matter what happens in life, God is at work in it, through it and even despite it—*for our good!* We look to him. We look within. And we continue to do good!

Right On!

(O.T. Scripture: Psalm 34:11-22)