

**Where Is God When Life Gets Tough?**  
**God's Purpose in Suffering #1—Draw Our Hearts to Him**  
~Mother's Day~  
**First Christian Church—May 10, 2020**  
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**Woman of sorrows, acquainted with grief...**

**GOD's Story— God's Purpose in Suffering #1: Draw Our Hearts to Him**

**1. God's Message to Israel—2 Chronicles 7:14**

**What I want you to do when hardship comes:**

- Humble yourselves
- Pray
- Seek My Face
- Turn from Your Wicked Ways

**If you will, I will:**

- Hear your prayers
- Forgive your sin
- Heal your land

**2. Hannah, a Woman whose Heart was Drawn to the Lord through Hardship—  
1 Samuel 1**

Out of Hannah's bitter anguish and grief, pouring her soul out to the Lord:

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- Hannah experienced what God promises: "Draw near to God and he will draw near to you." James 4:8a

**3. Hardship Can Change Our Hearts: The Lost Son, Luke 15:11-32**

**Big Idea:**

**God does not want suffering to ruin us but to restore us to him.**

**Right On!**

(O.T. Scripture: Psalm 51)