

MOVING FORWARD

IT'S WORKING FOR YOUR GOOD

“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.” Romans 8:28 (NKJV)

1. Some situations are not the trial of your _____ but a trial of your _____ !
2. Everything is either God _____ or God _____ !
3. You only appreciate what you understand to be _____ !
4. _____ has a purpose.
5. God’s answer to every problem is always _____ !
6. It’s not about what you are _____ that matters, it’s about what you are _____ in the process!
7. All change begins with _____ .

“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.” Psalm 34:19 (NKJV)

- Life is like a play; we’re all on the stage. When the lights go down and the curtain closes on the first act, we don’t get up and leave. We wait for the next act to start. The waiting time might be a trial, but the delay has a purpose. *Think of a time in your life that was difficult and you had a trial of trust in God. How did God deliver you from that situation?*

“For I know the plans I have for you” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

- You can walk confidently knowing that what the devil and others might mean for harm or to destroy you, God can use for good. Now realizing that everything is either



God-sent or God-used, how will you approach storms and/or obstacles that arise from now on?

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV)

- You only appreciate what you understand to be valuable. Hebrews 13:8 tells us what God was doing in character development of Jesus Christ. *What is God doing in your life? How is God developing your character?*

“But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.” James 1:4 (NKJV)

- We all experience trying times in our lives. Think of an experience you have had where your focus and perspective centered around what you were becoming instead of what you were going through—that shift changes our perspective.

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- All change begins with a decision. Decision means the state of cutting off. Consider some prominent moments of your life that shaped who you are – even the broken pieces – and reflect on how God worked them together for good, as Romans 8:28 above says. This knowledge should lead you to change your HAT (i.e., your Habits, Associations, and Thoughts).

Diving Deeper (optional)

The Japanese art of repairing broken pottery is called Kintsugi, where breakage is viewed as part of the history of the object and not something to hide. You have nothing to give until you're broken. *Is there a broken part of your past that God can use for good? Are you willing to commit to exploring how you can use it?*