

Real World Skit

Two students discuss how to respond when bad things happen to Christians.

Student 1: You seem really down today. Is everything okay?

Student 2: Actually, I'm not doing so great.

Student 1: What's wrong? Anything I can do to help?

Student 2: Not really. My family is going through some tough times. My grandpa died about a month ago. Then my grandma fell and broke her hip! But we live far away, so it's hard to help her.

Student 1: Oh no! Your poor grandma! Will she be okay?

Student 2: I hope so. She's in a care facility, but she doesn't like it there. Then if that weren't bad enough, we just found out my uncle has cancer. I just don't understand why all these bad things are happening.

Student 1: I know how you feel; my cousin was just in a terrible car accident. She'll be in the hospital for a while.

Student 2: Sounds like we're both dealing with a lot of sad and scary things. It feels like God has left us!

Student 1: Yeah, but my dad reminded me last night that things like death and sickness are in our world because of sin. They happen to all of us, but that doesn't mean God doesn't care.

Student 2: But God could stop these things from happening, right? I mean, my family believes in Jesus. We're Christians!

Student 1: Yes, he could. But God doesn't promise that Christians won't have anything bad happen to them. Actually, he promises just the opposite!

Student 2: What?! I thought things were supposed to work out for good for those who trust God! That's what our memory verse said in Sunday school.

Student 1: We aren't promised that nothing bad will ever happen. We live in a sin-cursed world, so bad stuff is all around us. But we can trust that God is working things out—even the bad things—for our good and his glory.

Student 2: I'm not sure I understand.

Student 1: Well, my dad showed me some examples from the Bible of how God sovereignly worked out events that seemed terrible to accomplish his purpose.

Student 2: Really? Like what?

Student 1: Well, like Joseph being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. That's a terrible thing to happen! But God wanted Joseph to be taken to Egypt so he could eventually save his family from a famine.

Student 2: Oh, yeah. That's right!

Student 1: Another example is Naomi. We talked about her in church last week. Her husband and two sons all died. She felt alone and forgotten, but God used Ruth to completely change her situation into something good. Remember?

Student 2: Yeah, Ruth ended up marrying Boaz, and their family became the ancestors of King David and Jesus!

Student 1: Right!

Student 2: Wow! I just thought of something—God even used family members dying to do something good.

Student 1: Yes! Death is always hard, and God will comfort us when we're sad. But he can use those things to bring others to faith in him or to direct our paths.

Student 2: That makes me feel better to know that God is in control.

Student 1: Yep. Nothing is a surprise to God. The more we learn about who God is, the more we can trust him, especially when we're going through tough times.

Student 2: I guess I was wrong to think that God didn't care. I'd stopped reading my Bible and praying because I was so sad and angry.

Student 1: I felt like doing that, too, when I heard about my cousin's accident. It's like we want to blame someone. But instead of blaming God, we should come to him for help and comfort. He really is a good Father!

Student 2: You're right. Thanks. I needed that reminder.