

VICTORY
PART 6
VICTORY FROM MY HURTS

Galatians 3:4 Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it?

HOW MY PAIN CAN BE USED FOR A GOOD PURPOSE

1. I CAN USE IT TO DRAW CLOSER TO GOD.

2 Corinthians 1:8–9 We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it. In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead.

2. I CAN USE IT TO DRAW CLOSER TO OTHERS.

Galatians 6:2 Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.

3. I CAN USE IT TO BECOME MORE LIKE JESUS.

2 Corinthians 7:11 And now, isn't it wonderful all the ways in which this distress has goaded you closer to God? You're more alive, more concerned, more sensitive, more reverent, more human, more passionate, more responsible. Looked at from any angle, you've come out of this with purity of heart.

4. I CAN USE IT TO HELP OTHERS.

2 Corinthians 1:4–6 He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer.

5. I CAN USE IT TO WITNESS TO THE WORLD.

Philippians 1:12 And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News.

2 Corinthians 4:16–18 That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.