



Sermon Title: Focused on Jesus During Difficulties

Series: Focused

Passages: (Listed Below)

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We aren't guaranteed tomorrow, but we are guaranteed that Jesus is with us today.

Every difficulty is an opportunity to **draw us closer to Jesus** or **drive a wedge between us and Jesus**.

7 Biblical Truths to Remember When Tragedy Strikes

1. Everyone Will Experience Troubles in Life

John 16:33 (CSB)

³³I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.”

2. Jesus Understands Suffering

Hebrews 4:15–16 (CSB)

¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin.

¹⁶Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.

3. God Is Always With You

Isaiah 41:10 (CSB)

¹⁰Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will hold on to you with my righteous right hand.

4. God Hears Your Cries

Psalm 34:17–18 (CSB)

¹⁷The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

¹⁸The Lord is near the brokenhearted; he saves those crushed in spirit.

Romans 8:26–27 (CSB)

²⁶In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings.

²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

5. God Is Your Refuge

Psalm 46:1–4 (CSB)

¹God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble.

²Therefore we will not be afraid, though the earth trembles and the mountains topple into the depths of the seas,

³though its water roars and foams and the mountains quake with its turmoil. Selah

⁴There is a river— its streams delight the city of God, the holy dwelling place of the Most High.

6. You Are A Light In Dark Times

Ephesians 5:8–16 (CSB)

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light—

⁹for the fruit of the light consists of all goodness, righteousness, and truth—

¹⁰testing what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness, but instead expose them.

¹²For it is shameful even to mention what is done by them in secret.

¹³Everything exposed by the light is made visible,

¹⁴for what makes everything visible is light. Therefore it is said: Get up, sleeper, and rise up from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

¹⁵Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise—

¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil.

Matthew 5:14–16 (CSB)

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house.

¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

7. Evil Doesn't Win

2 Corinthians 4:7–10 (CSB)

⁷Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us.

⁸We are afflicted in every way but not crushed; we are perplexed but not in despair;

⁹we are persecuted but not abandoned; we are struck down but not destroyed.

¹⁰We always carry the death of Jesus in our body, so that the life of Jesus may also be displayed in our body.

Romans 12:18–21 (CSB)

¹⁸If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

¹⁹Friends, do not avenge yourselves; instead, leave room for God's wrath, because it is written, Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, says the Lord.

²⁰But If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For in so doing you will be heaping fiery coals on his head.

²¹Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

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