

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Created to Dream
Message: Your Difficulties
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: October 29, 2023

Look back at the review part of the message notes. What is something you have learned so far in this series about making good decisions? God's delays? (Maybe there is something that you have known and has been reinforced.)

Why do you think God doesn't eliminate trouble and trials from our lives when we accept Jesus?

What are some ways you see that God uses trials and trouble to help us grow in our faith? (James 1:2-4)

What is the difference between facing a problem head-on vs running away from it? Can you think of a time when you ran away only to deal with more trouble later?

How have you seen (in your own life or another) the value of working through trouble with faith?

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

GNB – Good News Bible
NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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Here's a quick review of the past couple of stages.

How to make faith-inspired decisions:

1. Go to God and ask for His help.
2. Find out what the Bible says.
3. Ask for insight and advice from wise followers of Christ.
4. Be willing to make a painful choice if that is what is required to be faithful.
5. Trust God and do whatever you want!

Delays are part of God's work to prepare and protect us.

Now, get ready to face difficulties!

Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.

John 16:33 (NLT)

Difficulties do not have to define or derail us. Instead, they can refine and strengthen us.

² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

James 1:2–4 (NLT)

1. Go to God first.

Instead, in everything we do we show that we are God's servants by patiently enduring troubles, hardships, and difficulties.

2 Corinthians 6:4 (GNB)

2. Ask wise friends what they see.

Stupid people always think they are right. Wise people listen to advice.

Proverbs 12:15 (GNB)

3. Determine to act with a faith-filled response.

Confess your own fault.

Forgive others.

Continue to trust God today.