

August 2023



Mission Possible Words of Hope Ministries

BE CONNECTED

Have you ever felt alone in a situation? Have you wondered if anyone else could possibly understand what you have gone through? Whenever I have felt alone and disconnected from others, I am reminded somehow that my sense of isolation is a false perception. It is easy to go inward and isolate from others when experiencing specific emotions like guilt, anger, fear, sadness, regret or embarrassment. We think nobody wants to be burdened with our emotional pain. Just know that we need others and others need us based on how God created humankind.

God has created each of us to have some capacity to experience pain and pleasure as well as the ability to respond emotionally, cognitively, and physically at some level to what is going on around us. He has also made us to be social beings with inter dependency. How we think and respond to our circumstances is a choice – if we slow down enough to consider options rather than acting on impulse. God has equipped us with abilities to respond to life situations however singularly unique we each are. Yet there are times when we benefit from reaching out to others for assistance to get through troubled times. It is helpful if we can know we are not alone in experiencing certain life events because it allows us to be connected by common experience to others.

God desires us to interact with others and to have love for others even including our enemies. In 1 John 4:8 it says, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." Fortunately for us, God so loved us that he sacrificed His only son and through the earthly life of Jesus, showed us a path to His promise of everlasting life without sin and strife. We just need to choose to follow his Commandments. Jesus also told us, "I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another." (John 13:14) Having family and friends who care about us can help us live healthier, happier lives regardless of how challenging life gets. If rela-

tives or friends repeatedly fail us, we have the capacity to seek others to be our "chosen family" and new friends. God does not want us to be alone as illustrated in Genesis 2:18 when He created a companion for Adam and said, "It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

God is aware of our struggles and does not want us to be alone or lost in our suffering. It is through our faith and prayers to our Lord and Savior that we find our way. It is also through our focus on being present for others that we find purpose and meaning. Acts of friendship and kindness can be random, openly intentional or anonymous. Sometimes love can be expressed as honest commentary another may benefit from hearing whenever there is a blind spot that needs exposing for the wellbeing of that person. Such reality checks may sting initially but can lead us to new insights and positive change. Another way to be present for someone is to listen without judgment when someone is venting or sorting through a complicated situation. However we decide to be helpful to another is a demonstration of our commitment to follow God's commandment to love others as we love ourselves.

When we seek a connection with someone, we make a choice not to be alone. Assisting a stranger up after a fall is an act of connecting. Learning American Sign Language or a foreign language can be a method of caring for others. Because we are loved by God, He is continuously seeking interaction with us. Are we tuned in to the daily invitations to be a participant in that most holy relationship? Are we willing to participate in the call of duty to serve our Loving Father and our brothers and sisters in Christ? If so, be prepared to see loneliness and discontent melt away. May we challenge ourselves to make new connections where we can share God's love!

Yvonne

Praise and Prayer

GOD, we are so grateful that You call us by Your name. Even though we are imperfect, You call each one of us Yours. Each day, all of us want to live up to that calling and become the person that You have created us to be. Please help us all to be humbler, to seek You more, and to turn away from things that are wrong. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Lord, we pray that You would touch and heal Bethany M., Louis P, Michael H., Lorri N., Debbie C. Eric D, Jim M., Jessica's father and Ted M from the illnesses and side effects that plague them and give them relief from disease and that You would wrap Your arms around their family members and comfort them.

We pray for all men and women who are battling right now for freedom from addiction. We pray for them all as they pursue life, liberty, and real and lasting joy.

Father, help us to be faithful, obedient stewards of Your work and purpose in our lives, Lord. Though the

world may not know us for the caliber of fame as the great leaders of faith You have selected, we hold that caliber of fame in Your eyes. All of us. Thank You for going before us and protecting us as we fall and tumble in this world. Whether by our hand or that of evil in the world, thank You for always being there for us with perfect love, care, compassion, and empathy. Bless our lives with the courage to obey You and leave the consequences to You. Remove all doubt, fear, worry, anxiety, and hesitation from our hearts, so we may follow You with abandon, God. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Heavenly Father, you are sovereign over all, giving justice and proclaiming liberty to the captive. You were with Joseph when he was imprisoned in the king's jail. Your spirit visited Paul during his incarceration. And you sent your son, Jesus, to proclaim good news and freedom. God, we ask you to be with all those who are incarcerated today, for those living out sentences, and those awaiting

trial or bail. Let your spirit of peace and comfort be upon them. They are some of your most vulnerable children and they are at high risk of danger, illness and harm. Provide them with resources to keep them healthy and safe, let the ears and hearts of those in power be turned to hear the needs of your children. Keep all those who work in prisons and jails healthy and prevent the spread of illness, infection and disease to all those they interact with, especially those who have no means of protecting themselves. All this we pray in your name. Amen.

When troubled, fill our minds with thought that You are there Lord. You know all about this Lord. Even in our times of deepest trouble, God is Present. Amen!

**PLEASE SEND ALL PRAYER AND PRAISE REQUESTS TO:
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PO BOX 11063
CHARLOTTE NC 28220-1063**

Why does God allow good things to happen to bad people?

This question is similar to its opposite: "[Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people?](#)" Both questions refer to what seems to be the perplexing injustice we witness every day. The 73rd Psalm is our answer to the very same questions that also tormented the psalmist. Finding himself in terrible distress and agony of soul he writes, "But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked" ([Psalm 73:2-3](#)).

The writer of this Psalm was a man named Asaph, a leader of one of the temple choirs. Obviously, he was not a wealthy man, but rather one who had dedicated his life to serving God (see [1 Chronicles 25](#)). But, like us, he had experienced some difficulties and questioned the injustice of it all. He watched the evil people around him living by their own rules, enjoying all the wealth and pleasures of the world and collecting riches. He complains, "They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. They are free from

the burdens common to man; they are not plagued by human ills" ([Psalm 73:4-5](#)).

Asaph was looking at these people who didn't have problems. They could pay their bills. They had plenty to eat and plenty of luxuries. But poor Asaph was stuck with directing the choir and trying to live godly. And to make things worse, his choice to serve God didn't seem to be helping him. He began to envy these people and even to question God as to why He would allow such a thing to happen!

How often do we find ourselves relating to Asaph? We dedicate our lives to serving God. Then we witness the wicked, ungodly people around us get new possessions, luxurious homes, promotions, and beautiful clothes, while we struggle financially. The answer lies in the rest of the psalm. Asaph envied these evil people until he realized one very important thing. When he entered the sanctuary of God, he fully understood their final destiny: "When I tried to understand all this, it was oppressive to me till I entered the

sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! As a dream when one awakes, so when you arise, O Lord, you will despise them as fantasies" ([Psalm 73:16-20](#)). Those who have temporary riches on earth are in reality spiritual beggars because they do not have true riches—eternal life.

There are many times when we do not understand what is happening to us, nor do we understand how providence works. When Asaph entered the sanctuary of God, he began to see that there was no need for him to be envious of the prosperity of the wicked because their prosperity is an illusion. He began to comprehend that the ancient deceiver, Satan, had used lies to distract him from the reality of God. Upon entering the sanctuary, Asaph realized that prosperity is a fleeting fulfillment, like a pleasant dream that pleases us only for a little while but, when we awaken, we realize it was not real. Asaph

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COUNTRY COUNTRY	 3.14159	GROUND FEET FEET FEET	RAVEN	BUSINES

rebukes himself for his own stupidity. He admits to being “senseless and ignorant” to envy the wicked or to be jealous of the perishing. His thoughts then returned to his own happiness in God when he realized how much more joy, fulfillment, and true spiritual prosperity he had in the Creator.

We may not have everything we want here on earth, but we will one day prosper for all eternity through Jesus Christ our Lord. Whenever we are tempted to try the other road, we should remember that the other road is a dead end ([Matthew 7:13](#)). But the narrow road before us through Jesus is the only road that leads to eternal life. That

should be our joy and our comfort. “Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge . . .” ([Psalm 73:25, 27-28](#))

We need not concern ourselves when good things seem to happen to bad people. We only need to keep our focus on our Creator and enter into His presence every day through the portal of His holy Word. There we will find truth, contentment, spiritual riches, and eternal joy.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/good-things-bad-people.html>

1. Split personality
2. Misunderstood
3. Somewhere under the rainbow
4. Repeating history
5. One in a million
6. I'll be there in a minute
7. High chair
8. Space Invaders
9. Slow down
10. Stand in the corner
11. Double vision
12. Walking on thin ice
13. Eye of the storm
14. X marks the spot
15. Once upon a time
16. Broken promises
17. Shrinking violets
18. Pineapple upside down cake
19. Back door
20. Get a word in edgewise
21. Cross country
22. Apple pie
23. Six feet under
24. Half baked
25. Unfinished business



- 1 Andre D.
- 5 Jaymin M.
- 8 Demario S.
Eric C.
- 9 Jimmy M.
- 10 John W.
- 12 Kevin S.
Tracy M.
- 13 Greyson F.
- 17 Patrick F.
Joshua C.
- 21 Ernest W.
- 24 Darell W.
Jake W.
- 26 Robert S.
- 28 Roy M.
- 31 Steven T.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		1 Chronicles 30:22	Jonah 4:4	Psalm 43:5	Acts 20:28	Matthew 8:3
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Revelation 19:16	James 3:17	Psalm 20:4	Job 29:2	Acts 4:36	Acts 15:37-38	Acts 20:35
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Genesis 2:18	Genesis 37:3	Psalm 145:3	Jeremiah 2:213	Isaiah 43:2	2 John 1:14	1 Peter 1:6-7
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Philippians 1:6	Isaiah 40:8	Psalm 42:8	Hebrews 6:19	Jonah 2:2	1 Samuel 17:36	Psalm 16:11
27	28	29	30	31		
John 13:7	2 Corinthians 12:9	Ephesians 1:11	1 Thessalonians 5:19	Romans 15:13		