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How should I respond to hard times?



JAMES 1:2, 12

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds...¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

“It’s not fair!” “Why do bad things always happen to me?” Have you ever said or thought things like this? We all go through hard times in our lives. Illness or divorce in your family can be hard experiences to go through. Maybe your family has no place to live because your parents don’t have a job. Maybe others make fun of you because you’re a Christian.

It’s tempting to respond to hard times by getting angry with God. You might think, “If God really loved me, He wouldn’t let this bad thing happen.” That’s not true. God always loves and cares for you! He is always working out His plan for your life. God uses hard times to help you trust Him more. In this way, others will see Jesus at work in you, and your life will honor God.

When hard times come, remember that God is sovereign—He is in control! He knows about everything that happens to you, and He allows only what is best. Tell God how you feel. Ask Him to help you trust Him. Ask Him to give you quietness on the inside. Then, patiently wait for God to work things out for your good.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Write a note to God telling how you feel about the things happening in your life right now.



TALK TO GOD

Thank God that He has a purpose for you. Ask Him to help you trust Him to work out His plan.