



925 E Main, Eastland TX 76448 254.631.1596 bryan@ebryans.com

Help me Lord with Tragedy

Tragedies are Real - suffering and pain are real – and people affected by tragedies are real people. Their pain is real pain, and their tears are real tears. Jesus acknowledges the reality of suffering in

John 16:33:

I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have trouble and suffering, but have courage--I have conquered the world.

Even though it may be hard for some of us at times, God is a Good God. I don't have all the answers and am sure you feel them same way at times.

Could God prevent pain in our lives? Yes! absolutely! Then why doesn't He? There must be a reason for tragedy to be allowed—some “greater good.” The fact is that He is more concerned about our growth than our comfort.

Whatever your suffering may be, be assured that God is faithful and is there for you. He loves us and gives us peace - by giving us hope and faith. But he tells us that we have to be courageous!

Rom 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

How should we respond? Our response to tragedy must be immediate, although our understanding of it may be slow in coming - or it may never come at all on this earth. Go to God and trust in him and his word.

Tragedies enter our lives unexpectedly and we are never the same afterward. On that day many years ago, thousands weren't killed – not even hundreds; one man was executed. Yet that one man was the eternal Son of God Himself. And once again, the tragedy occurred because of sin, and once again God used the tragedy to eradicate sin. What do we call that day two-thousand years ago—we call it, ironically, “Good Friday!” But how can we label it “good?” Because God is in the Business of taking tragedies and working them out for our good. He has done so in the past, and rest assured that He will continue doing so now and in the future.

Psalms 73:26, NKJV

“God is the strength of my heart.”

God is for you. Turn to the sidelines; that's God cheering your run. Look past the finish line; that's God applauding your steps. Listen for Him in the bleachers, shouting your name. Too tired to continue? He'll carry you. Too discouraged to fight? He's picking you up. God is *for* you.