



**Date: May 15, 2022**

*Message Series: Tough Questions...Real Answers:*

*"Why Does God Allow Bad Things to Happen?"*

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## **Message-based Study**

Video is available online at: [visitccc.com](http://visitccc.com)

### **Connection**

Do you have a question that you've been afraid to ask God?

### **Cheer and Challenge**

- How did it go living out your "I will..." statement from last week? Share your experience.
- Tell about any experiences you had this week following through on the B.L.E.S.S. challenge.

### **Content**

We will see through the scriptures that God has the best goals and the best means to accomplish these goals to give you the best results in your life. We'll explore the answer to the tough question of "why does God allow bad things to happen" through four lenses: **picture, perspective, purpose, and promise.**

**Problem** ~ If God is willing and able to take evil and suffering away and does not, He is not powerful or good.

**Picture** ~ God's character qualities show us that He alone can bring purpose out of suffering.

God's goodness, mercy, and wisdom ~ read the following scriptures and write what each says about God.

Luke 18:19

James 1:17

2 Samuel 24:14

Matthew 9:27

Psalms 104:24

1 Corinthians 1:30

**Perspective** ~ God's original design was good and without brokenness.

What perspective does God want you to have from the following scriptures? Read Genesis 1:31, Romans 5:12, Isaiah 55:8-9, Ecclesiastes 3:11, and Job 42:1-6.

**Purpose** ~ God gives us what we need to bear our trials. Read Romans 5:3-5, James 1:2-4 and Hebrews 12:10-11 and write what suffering can do in your life. Have you seen that to be true? Share how.

Optional: For further study, read the story of Joseph found in Genesis 37-50. God used Joseph's sufferings for a mighty purpose found in Genesis 50:20. Write that purpose below.

**Promise** ~ God will make all things new! (Revelation 21:5a) Find all the promises God gives to you in the following verses and write them below.

Psalms 121:1-2, 4, 8

Matthew 11:28-30

James 1:12

2 Corinthians 4:17

### Things to Remember

**There are secret things of God (Deuteronomy 29:29).**

**There is nowhere better to turn (John 6:68-69).**

**There is victory in our pain (John 16:33).**

**There is divine goodness and mercy (Psalm 23:6)**

### Commitment

Below, write one action you will intentionally take to help you have God's perspective on your suffering.



**Begin with prayer. Listen with care. Eat / Engage with another. Serve. Share your story.**

This week, **serve** someone in need. As you help meet their needs, let them know God loves them and has a purpose for their pain.