Discipleship During Life's Tragedies

We encounter many unexpected situations in life that can have a profound impact on our faith, such as the death of loved ones, a bad diagnosis, serious injury, natural disasters, or job loss. How do we respond with faith when we suffer? How can we be sure that trauma, grief, pain, frustration, and anger won't shatter our faith? Join us as we study the scriptures together and receive assurance that God cares about all our experiences and emotions, good and bad. Find out what the Bible says it takes, and what God provides, to stay the course of discipleship in the midst of life's tragedies.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What challenges or tragedies have you experienced in your life? How did each impact your faith?
- What does it mean to feel stuck in your walk with Jesus?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Discipleship During Life's Tragedies

READ Job 1:13-22, Psalm 56:8, 1 Peter 5:7, Job 42:10-11

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- What "pat answers" do you recall hearing during difficult situations in your life? How did they impact your faith?
- In segment 1, host Darrell Delaney said, "Grief is actually factored into the healthy walk with Jesus." How did you react to that idea? Which other difficult or intense emotions should we treat in this way, as a natural part of a healthy walk with Jesus? What does it mean to you that God planned for it?
- In segment 2, host Scott Hoezee said, "You are still on the road of discipleship if you can complain...if you can lament." How does this idea resonate with your experience? Why is it important in our discipleship for us to allow space for grief and worship?
- Read <u>Psalm 56:8</u> and one (or all) of the related passages identified below. How do passages like these encourage our discipleship and guide us in becoming more Christ-like?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

Isaiah 43:1-5, Psalm 13, Daniel 3:16-29

CONCLUSION

Trusting in God's care and remaining present in community gives us the strength and support we need to continue growing in our discipleship, even during life's tragedies. When have you experienced this in life? Have you ever witnessed the kind of faith-holding support Scott described in his closing example of the pastor who lost his wife? Close your time of reflection in prayer, asking God to show you what you can't see and thanking him for the assurance of his care we find in his Word.

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