



Part 3: Surviving Life's Worst Moments

Big Idea

This week, Pastor Chris shares how we can trust God even during life's most difficult moments. In life, we're either coming out of a difficult time, in the middle of one, or heading into one, so it's easy to feel like there's always something going on. Whether it's bad weather, a struggling economy, a sickness in our body, or a difficult relationship, we can take refuge in knowing God sent Jesus on a rescue mission to heal the world and us. While God doesn't promise us an earthly solution, He does promise us a heavenly one. So even though we may not see the answer to our prayers on this side of Heaven, we can trust in His faithfulness by focusing on eternity.

When life gets difficult and seems to come apart at the seams, we should remember to take the steps we can take in the natural: run towards God and people, worship God in every situation, focus on eternity, trust God, and learn from experience to share our story and help others.

Remember, we can't control what happens to us, but with God's help, we can choose how we respond

"So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world." 1 Peter 1:6-7 NLT

Discussion Questions

- Why is it so important to trust God when life doesn't make sense? Discuss how having a relationship with God and worshipping Him through difficult times can help you get through life's challenges.
- Share a challenging season you have been through that taught you one of the following truths: God loves you, He wants the best for you, He has a plan for you, and He will always bring you through. Since that time, how has this truth changed your perspective in the face of other challenges?
- Talk about a time you handled an offense God's way. How did it change the way you acted and felt toward the person who hurt you?

Next Steps

Write out your next step in your walk with Christ and how you plan to accomplish it. Talk to your Small Group Leader if you need guidance in how to move a step forward in your faith. Additional information on next steps is available at: www.churchofthehighlands.com/groups/next-steps

Prayer Focus

This week, make time to worship God before asking Him to meet your needs. Share your pain with Him and ask Him to reveal His purpose in your tough season. Tell Him that you will trust Him in good times and in bad times. Thank Him for consistently carrying you through the trials of life.

Leader Tip

Identify those in your group who have demonstrated leadership potential and encourage them to lead a small group. Small Group Leadership Training is offered each month at Step Four of the Growth Track.