



God Works for The Good, pt. 1

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. – Romans 8:28

I have heard this verse my whole life. It seems to be used the most when someone is going through a “hard” time and needs some reasons for it. Like saying, “I know this is a hard time but God has a reason and someday you’ll know.” But will I? What about all those times in my life that stunk and I still don’t know why?! Sometimes this verse seems so absurd and unfair.

But read it again right now. There are some key elements that can correct our vision in living out this verse. It seems to jump around two things all the while connecting them. Just give me a second and let’s look. We will go in reverse.

“According to his purpose.”

Did you see that? A simple word so easily missed. An adjective revealing ownership. “HIS purpose”. Hidden by pride and immaturity is the realization that I don’t live for myself. My search for personal meaning is not, and should not, be found in my purpose. Jesus has called us to “die to self” and follow him COMPLETELY. And it is difficult because we only see and feel the here-and-now. We are mortal beings invited to see an eternal purpose. It’s an impossible task that leads us to lean fully on our faith in the all-powerful, all-knowing and all-loving Father.

Its much like raising young children. They don’t understand why laying in the street is not ok. To them it appears as an adventure that they can have. To roll from one side of the street to the other without hitting cars and other objects seems like a dream come true. But we, as parents, know there are other cars to be concerned about. Not the ones parked to dodge but the ones moving that can kill. We know from our maturity and experience that there is imminent danger and certain hospital trips (if you’re lucky) awaiting. So we tell our children (wisely), “No!”

But they don’t see it. To them we are just mean and not understanding to what is really important. Such it is with our children. Such it is between us and God. What we are going through doesn’t make sense to us. It seems mean and cruel. But God sees all things all the time from all sides. And we are living according to “HIS PURPOSE”. True today. True tomorrow. True eternally.

Maybe you’re in that place. A place of confusion and hurt. I don’t know why you are there. I don’t know what God is trying to do. You may not find out until you get to heaven. But I know this; God has His purpose written all over it so trust Him. Know that something is coming from it. And most important, He walks with you through it.

From My Heart,

Billy