

The *New* You



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A Greater Hope
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No matter what is happening in your life—whether it's conflict at work, health issues, break-ups, or miscarriages—Paul says in Romans that there is not one thing in your life that God cannot work out for your good. We can be comforted when we face problems and trials because we know that they will help us develop character, endurance, and a hope for Heaven.

Discussion Questions

1. **Read James 1:12-18.** God is not the author of evil, but he can take any situation and bring good from it. How have you seen this to be true in your own life?
2. In Romans 8, Paul says God will work all things for our good. But in the fog of tragedy or hardship, it can be hard to see the good in the situation. What is your definition of *good*? How might that differ from God's definition? What are you struggling to see the good or purpose in right now?
3. Share an example of when you had plans all laid out but then God showed up and had his own purpose for your life.
4. **Read Romans 8:18 and Philippians 4:6-7.** How can we shift our focus to be on the *later* versus the *now*? How can the hope we find in Jesus Christ help us when we face trials and hardship?

Challenge

This week, spend time reflecting on how you have seen God at work in your life through difficult times. Write down the challenging situation and how God was able to bring good out of it, even if it was years later. Keep this as an ongoing list so that you can look back at it and see God's goodness in your life.

Commit to Memory

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**