

## PRAYER BULLETIN #127, 17JUL2021

### GOOD THAT COMES FROM SUFFERING

*"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*

#### REFLECTION

What struggle are you going through this day? Are you fighting with a terminal illness or are you supporting a loved one struggling with an end-stage sickness? Have you lost your job or are you having financial difficulties, not knowing how you are going to provide for your family?

In the midst of the suffering and pain we might find it difficult to see how the Lord can use all these painful experiences for our good. How can any good come out of suffering and pain? How can the Lord work out good in and through one's bad situation?

We may wonder why God would allow trouble and suffering to visit us especially when we have remained loving, faithful and obedient to His Word. We may wonder how is this a God who will work all things for our good?

The early church was in the midst of suffering and persecution and Paul wrote to encourage his fellow believers to trust that God would eventually turn all their sufferings and use them for their good. They might not know how God would do this, but they could have faith that in His perfect timing He would work all these things for their good.

On the cross Jesus knew that that the Father would work all His pain and suffering for the good of humankind. Would we have known if we were in His shoes? But on hindsight, we have experienced the gift of salvation that has come through Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection.

Let us put our faith in God's sovereign will and trust that even in the worst situations He can still use it to bring about a greater good in our lives.

#### PRAYER

*Dear Lord, You are the Sovereign God who will work all things for our good. Teach us to trust that You are able to use the pain and suffering that we experience for our good. Though we might not be able to see how this is possible, give us the grace to keep putting our faith in You. Help us to draw strength from the example of Christ, who through His death and suffering brought about the greatest good to all the world. May we, like Him, stay obedient to Your Word and follow in Your ways, even when we are going through trials in our lives. Amen.*

#### SUPPLICATION

- Let us thank God for how the COVID-19 situation in Singapore is under control and that most of us are able to get vaccinated.
- Let us pray for those who have been unable to fly back home to visit their loved ones. Pray that the Lord will comfort them and fill them with His peace. Pray too that the COVID situation will improve so that international travel can resume.
- Let us pray for the churches in Singapore, that in the midst of the various restrictions to gathering physically in congregations, the Holy Spirit will inspire and teach us to find new and creative ways to organise our ministries to serve His people.
- Let us pray for the country of Myanmar, for the Lord to intervene in their civil conflict and to provide protection and help for those who have been displaced by the fighting.

*"God uses suffering to purge sin from our lives, strengthen our commitment to him, force us to depend on grace, bind us together with other believers, produce discernment, foster sensitivity, discipline our minds, spend our time wisely, stretch our hope, cause us to know Christ better, make us long for the truth, lead us to repentance of sin, teach us to give thanks in times of sorrow, increase faith, and strengthen character. It is a beautiful image!"*

*- Joni Eareckson Tada, "When God Weeps"*

**If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:**

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