

During a TRAGEDY, remember that:

God isn't the _____ of everything that happens.

God allows some things to happen that _____.

In this _____ you'll have trouble (John 16:33).

_____ has fallen from heaven (Isaiah 14:12).

All _____ sin and fall short of God's glory (Rom 3:23).

God's _____ will always _____
to produce _____.

God _____ good only to someone
who _____ Him.

Discussion Questions

Getting Started

If you believe that God is the direct cause of everything, you have probably felt: anger (we doubt God's love when things don't go our way), recklessness (if it works out, who cares what I do), misplaced hope (unrealistic expectations on God).

Digging Deeper

Those who love God are those who obey Jesus' commands (John 14:15; 1 John 2:4). Can you be described as obedient?

Have you ever wondered, "If God is going to fix things someday, why does it feel like He is waiting so long?" Meditate upon these passages (2 Peter 3:8-10; Psalm 18:30).

God has never promised us that everything will work out exactly how we want it to, but He has promised us several wonderful assurances (Hebrews 13:5; Deut 31:6; Psalm 34:18; Matthew 28:20; James 1:12; 2 Cor 1:3-5; Romans 8:35-39).

Applying the Word to Life

How can you handle the mysteries in your life (Deuteronomy 29:29; Isaiah 55:8-9; Proverbs 3:5-6)? How can you specifically show God that you trust Him right now even though you might be confused about the outcome of a trial you are in?

When you are in the midst of a trial, how can you process the reason behind the suffering: world, Satan, sinful nature. Invite the Holy Spirit to search your heart if you are confused as to why the trouble is happening. If you have caused it, repent. If you sense it is Satan, then stand firm (Ephesians 6:10-18).

If you are on the other side of a trial, then try to list the good that God produced as you were suffering. Give thanks to God for all of the good that you see He accomplished.