



"The Struggle is Real"

Message by Tim Perkins

3/10/19

Romans 8:28; 2 Corinthians 1:8-11

Surviving Life's Worst Moments – 6 Stages...

1. _____ . (*Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*)

2. _____ . (*Isaiah 53:3; Psalm 61:1-2 NKJV*)

3. _____ . (*Matthew 27:46; Hebrews 11:35-40*)

4. _____ . (*Proverbs 3:5-6*)

5. _____ . (*Romans 5:3-4 MSG; 1 Peter 1:6-7 NLT*)

6. _____ . (*2 Corinthians 1:3-7*)

I can't _____ what happens to me, but with God's help,
I can _____ my response.

Midweek Small Group Discussion:

Romans 8:1-11

Take a moment to reflect on Tim's message from Sunday. Any questions stirred up? Any direction for your life? Any peace and refreshment for your soul?

Before you read Romans 8:1-11, take a few moments to be still before God. Sit quietly for a minute or two, releasing the day's cares. In your own words, invite God to speak to you through the Scripture reading and discussion time.

How would you describe the "freedom" mentioned in verse 2?

From verse 3, what is it that the law could not do and that only God could do?

Re-read verse 1 five times slowly. What stands out to you as those words wash over you? What does this say about how God sees you?

Drawing from verses 1-4, how would you explain the gospel to someone who feels they are not good enough?

What are real-life differences between walking in the flesh versus walking in the Spirit? (v4)

On a continuum of 1 to 10 (1 being "the flesh," 10 being "the Spirit"), which number best describes where your mind is set when you are at church?

Where is your mind set at work?

Where is your mind set on your commute to work?

Where is your mind set when you return home from a day of work?

Where is your mind set when out with friends?

How can you begin training yourself to dwell on things of the Spirit throughout a normal day at work or home?

How would relationships at work and home be impacted if you were to consistently dwell on things above?

A central verse in Tim's message is Romans 8:28. Read that verse and then answer the following questions:

- How does removing the phrase "for those who love God" change the meaning and promise of Romans 8:28?
- Is the promise of "all things working together for the good" a promise to everyone?
- "All things work together for the good." Define "good" from a Godly perspective.

What verses that we read today would you find most helpful when you are attempting to survive life's worst? Why?

How would it benefit you to memorize that verse, or to post it in a place where life seems to hit you hardest?