

HOW GOD CAN USE MY PAIN FOR MY GOOD

Where Is God When It Hurts?

1. GOD USES PAIN TO GUIDE & DIRECT ME

“A person may plan his own journey, but the Lord directs his steps.” Proverbs 16:9 (GW)

“He delivers the afflicted by their affliction and opens their ear by adversity. Job 36:15

*“Now I am glad...not because it hurt you but because the pain turned you to God...”
2 Corinthians 7:9 (LB)*

“...it was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to your laws.” Psalm 119:71-72 (LB)

2. GOD USES PAIN TO GOAD & CORRECT ME

*“Blows that wound cleanse away evil; strokes make clean the innermost parts.”
Proverbs 20:30 (ESV)*

“God corrects all of His children, and if He doesn’t correct you, then you don’t really belong to Him... God corrects us for our own good, because He wants us to be holy, as He is.” Hebrews 12:8-10 (CEV)

“Consider yourself fortunate God all-powerful chooses to correct you.” Job 5:17 (CEV)

(Prodigal son) “He spent everything he had...and was hungry... At last he came to his senses and said... I’ll get up and go to my father...” Luke 15:14-18 (TEV)

“Let God train you, for he is doing what any loving father does for his children. Whoever heard of a child who was never corrected?” Hebrews 12:7 (LB)

3. GOD USES PAIN TO GAUGE & INSPECT ME

“You (God) inspect them every morning and test them every minute.” Job 7:18 (TEV)

“The Lord searches our hearts and examines our deepest motives so He can give to each person his right reward, according to his deeds — how he has lived.” Jeremiah 17:10 (LB)

“I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.” Isaiah 48:10 (NIV)

*“... when you meet trials of **various** kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2-4 (ESV)*

*(Israelites) “God led you through the wilderness for forty years, humbling you and testing you to find out how you would respond, and whether or not you would really obey him.”
Deuteronomy 8:2 (LB)*

4. GOD USES PAIN TO GUARD & PROTECT ME

“For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler ...” Psalm 91:3a (ESV)

“He also allured you out of distress into a broad place where there was no cramping.” Job 36:16

Joseph: “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good.” Genesis 50:20

*“Jesus replied, ‘You don’t realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.’”
John 13:7 (NIV)*

5. GOD USES PAIN TO GROW & PERFECT ME

“For when the way is rough, your patience has a chance to grow. So let it grow, and don’t try to squirm out of your problems...then you will be ready for anything, strong in character, full and complete.” James 1:4 (LB)

*(This happened) ...so we might learn to trust, not in ourselves, but in God...” 1 Corinthians 1:9
(Ph)*

“Has all your painful experience brought you nowhere?” Galatians 3:4 (Ph)

“Therefore, let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.” 1 Pet 4:19.