

Word on Wednesday Bible Study
USING YOUR PAIN TO HELP OTHERS
Where is God When it Hurts Part 3
Pastor Kenneth Reece

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 5 For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. 6 If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. 2Co 1:3-6 ESV

**YOUR PAINFUL EXPERIENCES WILL NOT BE WASTED
IF YOU'LL SHARE FOUR THINGS**

1. I SHARE HOW PAIN GOT _____

“Hard times and trouble are God's way of getting our attention!” Job 36:15 (CEV)

“God gets them to listen through their pain.” Job 36:15b (NCV)

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

WHEN SHARING ABOUT YOUR PAIN

A. BE OPEN ABOUT _____

“We have spoken frankly to you; we have opened our hearts wide.” 2 Corinthians 6:11b (TEV)

B. BE HUMBLE ABOUT _____

“Each of us must bear the faults and burdens of his own. For none of us is perfect!” Gal. 6:5 (LB)

C. BE FRANK ABOUT _____

*“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.”
1 Tim. 1:15b (NIV)*

D. BE HONEST ABOUT _____

“I have the desire to do what is right, but I cannot carry it out... I keep on doing the evil I don’t want to do.” Romans 7:18–19

E. BE CANDID ABOUT _____

*“I do admit that I have fears that when I come you'll disappoint me and I'll disappoint you, and in frustration with each other everything will fall to pieces...”
2 Corinthians 12:20 (MSG)*

2. SHARE WHAT I’VE _____ FROM MY PAIN

*“God teaches people through suffering and uses distress to open their eyes.”
Job 36:15 (TEV)*

*“Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways.”
Proverbs 20:30 (TEV)*

A. I LEARNED TO _____

“We were really crushed and overwhelmed...and saw how powerless we were to help ourselves; but that was good, for then we put everything into the hands of God, who alone could save us...and he did help us...” 2 Corinthians 1:8b–10 (LB)

B. I LEARNED _____

“Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.” Psalm 119:67

“It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.” Psalm 119:71

C. I LEARNED _____

“Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

3. SHARE HOW GOD IS _____ OUT OF MY PAIN.

“I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News.” Philippians 1:12 (NLT)

“We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God...” Romans 8:28 (NLT)

“[They] intended it to harm me, but God intended it for good.” Genesis 50:20

4. SHARE HOW JESUS _____

“Brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the trouble we suffered in Asia. We had great burdens there that were beyond our own strength. We even gave up hope of living. Truly, in our own hearts we believed we would die. But this happened so that we would not trust in ourselves but in God, who raises people from the dead. God saved us from great dangers of death, and he will continue to save us. We have put our HOPE in him, and he will save us again.”

2 Corinthians 1:8–10 (NCV)

GOD: “When you call to me, I will answer you. I will be with you when you are in trouble. I will save you and honor you.” Psalm 91:15 (GW)