

Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen?

Student's Name:

Directions:

1. You have two weeks to return your make-up assignment.
2. Please complete electronically and e-mail to a Confirmation Director.
3. You will need to watch the video from the week you missed the following class.
4. Feel free to discuss questions with a parent, teacher, or peer.

Watch the video: What phrase or idea stuck with you from the video?

Focus Passage: 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10; Romans 8:28 – (use Bible or Bible app)

1. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10. What do you think Paul was trying to say?
2. How hard would it be for you simply to accept when bad things happen because you know that God's grace keeps you strong?
3. Read Romans 8:28. What is Paul saying here?
4. What kinds of good might be possible when tragedy happens in the world?
5. What makes it hard to see the potential for good or renewed happiness in the middle of sad, angry, and confused times?

Word Band-Aids Questions: (feel free to discuss these with a parent or a teacher)

1. What are the least helpful phrases you have heard people say in response to bad things happening?
2. Why are these phrases harmful?
3. What emotions do you feel when you try to think of something comforting to say?
4. What emotions have you experienced when someone tries to comfort you with his or her words?
5. What are some things we can do (not say) for other people when bad things happen?
6. Does saying or doing feel more supportive to you?

Half Sorrow

1. Consider the worst thing that's ever happened to you. What emotions do you feel as you think about that experience?
2. Is it hard to tell others about it? Why?
3. How does your body feel when you think about this bad thing?
4. Where do you think God was when this happened?
5. How do you deal with bad things? What community do you turn to?
6. Can you find any good in this bad situation? If so, what is it?

Main Point: “Bad things happen, BUT God also experiences the chaos-the pain, the suffering, the evil-with us, even to the point of death on the cross.”