

C3 LEADERS QUESTIONS
S2021-WEEK 5
2/28/21

Getting Started with a Warm-Up:

- Share about a time that God turned something bad toward the good in your life. Read the story of Joseph in Genesis 50:20. (“You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people”. NLT)
- How does it help you personally to know that God can turn all things for the good? Recall Randy’s sermon on 2/28/21.

Getting Down to Business:

The following questions are following this format: Scripture/Observation, Application, and Prayer (SOAP).

1) Scripture/Observation:

- Read Romans 8:28-30. According to verse 28 who does God cause everything to work together for the good? And why?
 (“28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. 29 For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.” Romans 8:28-30, NLT. Below is an excerpt from the Bible Panorama commentary that you can access by following the link after the excerpt.)

V 28–30: CALLED Those whom God has called can be absolutely certain that, in God’s sovereign purpose, everything will work together for their good. Their salvation is not an accident. God planned it in eternity, performed it in time, works it out in time, and will eventually perfect it in eternity. Our standing in Christ is absolutely watertight because of who He is and because He has chosen us and planned our way.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=romans+8&version=NLT>

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- According to Romans 8:30 what is the ultimate good that God is moving towards?
- Read Job 1:6-12. How do you feel knowing that even Satan is under God's providence. ("All right, you may test him," the Lord said to Satan. "Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don't harm him physically." So Satan left the Lord's presence". Job 1:12, NLT. Below is an excerpt from the Bible Panorama commentary that you can access by following the link after the excerpt.)

V 6–12: SATAN TO SIFT God's angels, called 'the sons of God', present themselves before God. His fallen angel, Satan, is also present, having returned from walking about in the earth. Job's holiness is noted by God, but Satan states that if he loses his possessions, he will curse God. God allows Satan to attack Job, with limitations that God puts on him. God sometimes allows attacks on Christians, both spiritual and otherwise, to demonstrate His grace to others and to bless Christians themselves, but, most of all, to glorify Himself.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=job+1&version=NLT>

- Job's life could be described as good. What was Satan convinced would cause Job to curse God? (Hint: "9 Satan replied to the Lord, "Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. 10 You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is! 11 But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!." Job 1:9-11, NLT)
- Read Habakkuk 1:1-17. What are the six specific evils that Habakkuk observes around him in verses 1-4? (Below is an excerpt from the Bible Panorama commentary that you can access by following the link after the excerpt.)
- What's God's solution to the evil that Habakkuk sees? (Hint: verses 5-11) And why is Habakkuk surprised? (Hint: verses 12-17)

V 1–4: WICKEDNESS The prophet, Habakkuk, enters into a dialogue with God. Habakkuk's first question is to enquire how long he must cry out in prophecy without an apparent answer. Wickedness of all kinds seems to proliferate in Israel.

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V 5–11: WATCH! God tells him to watch and see the amazing thing that He will do. He will bring up the 'terrible and dreadful' Chaldeans (the Babylonians) and judge Israel through them. Israel will be taken captive.

V 12–17: WHY? Habakkuk knows that God is eternal, and he does not think that Israel will die. He then asks why God proposes to use someone as wicked as the Babylonians to judge a nation which, though rebellious and sinful, is less wicked than the coming oppressors. Surely God is too pure to use someone so wicked and cruel? The rule of law and exercise of justice have gone.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1%3A1-17&version=NLT>

2) **Application:** How does knowing that God is providentially using bad for your good, affect the way you view bad situations in your life?

3) **Prayer:** Pray that God will help us remember His providence even when things are bad.