

Four Ways God Uses Problems

By Mike Riley

The problems we face will either defeat us or develop us – depending on how we respond to them. Unfortunately, most people fail to see how God wants to use problems for good in their lives. They react foolishly and resent their problems rather than pausing to consider what benefit they might bring. With the above thoughts in mind, the following are four ways God wants to use the problems in our life:

1) God Uses Problems To “Direct” Us

Sometimes God must light a fire under us to get us moving. Problems often point us in a new direction and motivate us to change. Is God trying to get your attention? Sometimes it takes a painful situation to make us change our ways (Proverbs 20:30).

2) God Uses Problems To “Correct” Us

Some lessons we learn only through pain and failure. It’s likely that as a child your parents told you not to touch a hot stove. But you probably learned by being burned. Sometimes we only learn the value of something (health, money, a relationship) by losing it. “It was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to your laws.” Ps 119:71-72.

3) God Uses Problems To “Protect” Us

A problem can be a blessing in disguise if it prevents us from being harmed by something more serious. Last year a friend was fired for refusing to do something unethical that his boss had asked him to do. His unemployment was a problem – but it saved him from being convicted and sent to prison a year later when management’s actions were eventually discovered. “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good” (Genesis 50:20).

4) God Uses Problems To “Perfect” Us

Problems, when responded to correctly, are character builders. God is far more interested in our “character” than our “comfort”. Our relationship to God and our character are the only two things we are going to take with us into eternity. “We can rejoice when we run into problems ... they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady.” (Romans 5:3-4).

Conclusion

Here’s the point: God is at work in our life (even when we do not recognize it or understand it). But it’s much easier and profitable when we cooperate with Him. “Success can be measured not only in achievements, but in lessons learned, lives touched, and moments shared along the way.”

Let us be encouraged by the words of the inspired apostle Paul in Romans 8:28, “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”



STERLINGTON

Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82
1095 Highway 2
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280
www.sterlingtoncoc.com

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

10/3/21

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshipping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Elders:

Todd Chapman
Paul Simpson

Deacons:

Wayne Fowler David Garris
Billy Granger Buddy Hollis

Preacher:

Don Delukie

Those to Serve

Today

Announcements- Paul Simpson **Lord's Table-** Rick Cook
Opening prayer- Todd Chapman **Closing Prayer-** Rick Cook

October 10th

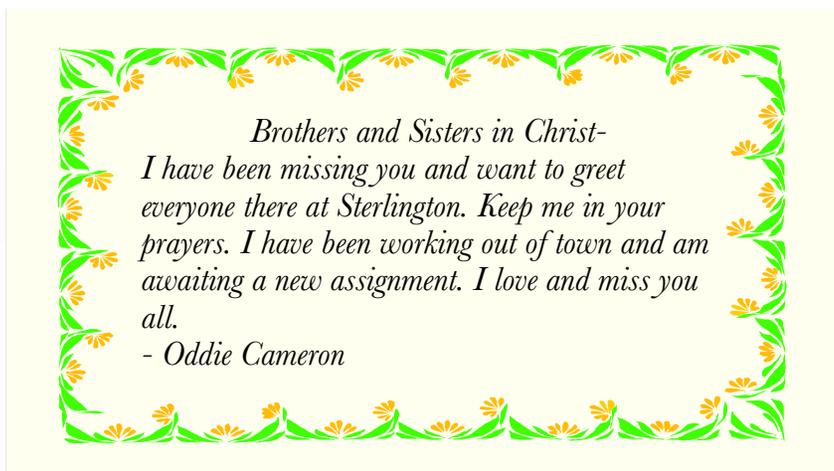
Announcements- Charles Fricke **Lord's Table-** Wayne Fowler
Opening prayer- Travis Rogers **Closing Prayer-** Larry Randolph

• Communion will utilize self-contained, sealed cups available in the foyer. **Please pick one up upon arrival.**

• Giving is available at a central collection container in the foyer.

Announcements

—**New Church Website:** Check out our new church website at www.sterlingtonchurchofchrist.com



Please Pray For:

Dan Bryan, Clyde Wilson, Larry Whitehead, Jerry Madden, Melannie White, Mary Wyatt, Brenda Thomas, Joanne Randolph, Sadie Kate & Sydney Scharf, Ernie Verse, Jerry Ketchin, Elizabeth Johnson, Kathryn Thomas, Billy Granger, Susie McGough, Melvin Tuggle, Elizabeth Hollis.

Bereaved: Families of Levi Buckley, Jason Blondin, Larry Keene, Randy Hall, Gavin Simmons, Dewy Roberson.

Continue to Pray For:

Shirley Goodwin, Bobby Barker, Dinky Douglas, Cyndi Powell, Betsy Culp, Heath Ray, Terrance Dawson, Ann Bolden, Jamie Ross, Charlie McDaniel Jr, Lewis Bedele, Cindy Jenny, Gay Black, Adam White.

Weekly Bible Reading Plan

Epistles (Sunday)	The Law (Monday)	History (Tuesday)	Psalms (Wednesday)	Poetry (Thursday)	Prophecy (Friday)	Gospels (Saturday)
<input type="checkbox"/> Heb. 5-7	<input type="checkbox"/> Num. 29-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 2Chr 11-15	<input type="checkbox"/> Ps 117-118	<input type="checkbox"/> Prov. 28	<input type="checkbox"/> Jonah	<input type="checkbox"/> Acts 3-4



October birthdays

- 2 - Rick Van Loon
- 7 - Joyce McDonald
- 11 - Luke Chapman
- 12 - Barbara Wheeler
- 14 - Kathy Manning
- 16 - Rex Albright
- 22 - Wyatt Chapman
- 24 - Jean Delukie
- 25 - Lorene Johnson
- 27 - Charles Fricke

October anniversaries

- 17 - Todd and Nelia Chapman

