

# Father knows best

December 12, 2022

**ROMANS 8:28-29 (NKJV) - (28)** And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. **(29)** For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

If we could design an idea life, most of us would skip over times of hardship. But scripture teaches us that God has a purpose in the storms of life. When problems press in on us, ungodly attitudes and habits tend to surface in our lives. Impatient behavior, a quick temper or reliance on something or someone other than the Lord may become apparent. In a crisis, the bad habits we previously ignored can show up in ways that are too obvious to overlook. The Holy Spirit will use tough times to smooth away our rough edges and produce the fruit of the Spirit in us.

When life is good, we may spend less time with the Lord and start taking our relationship with Him for granted. We may even drift off His chosen path. Crisis helps us see our need for Him as well as our inability to help ourselves. Hard times bring us to our knees in prayer and drive us to see opportunities for His companionship.

Our heavenly Father's desire is for us to develop Christ like character and grow in intimacy with Him. He wants us to experience the riches of His love and wholeheartedly show Him devotion. He will use trials and difficulties to accomplish His good purposes in us.

Life brings trouble to us from many sources. But the common thread in all trials is the Lord's desire and ability to use them for our good and His glory. Through these experiences, we can let go of ungodly traits and experience sweet communion as we walk in intimacy with Him.

## SCRIPTURE READING

**ZEPHANIAH 3:17**

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God's love is like an ocean. You can see the beginning, but you can't see the end.

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"