

## GOD'S BLESSINGS COME IN THE MIDST OF SORROW.

Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Audie Clairmont/Pastor

### **Ecclesiastes 3:1,4-NIV**

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens . . . A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance.

**God is with you in the midst of grief or sorrow to get you through the transitions of life.**

**There is no growth in your life without change. There is no change without loss. There is no loss without pain. And there is no pain without sorrow or grief.**

Here are some ways God does that.

**1. God draws you closer to himself when you hurt.**

### **Psalm 34:18 –ESV**

The **LORD is near** to the *brokenhearted* and *saves* the *crushed in spirit*.

**2. God relates to what you're going through.**

### **Hebrews 4:15- NLT**

This High Priest of ours **understands our weaknesses, for He faced all of the same testing's we do**, yet He did not sin.

### **Psalm 78:40-Passion**

40 How many times they rebelled in their desert days! How **they grieved him with their grumbings**.

**3. God gives you a church family for support.**

### **Romans 12:5,10,15-Passion**

5 And so it is in the body of Christ. For though we are many, we've all been mingled into one body in Christ. This means that we are all vitally joined to one another, with each contributing to the others.

10 Be devoted to tenderly loving your fellow believers as members of one family. Try to outdo yourselves in respect and honor of one another.

15 Celebrate with those who celebrate, and ***weep with those who grieve***.

**4. God grows us up through our pain.**

### **Hebrews 5:8-Passion**

8 But even though he was a wonderful Son, he learned to listen and obey **through all his sufferings**.

### **Romans 8:28-NIV**

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.

**Passion** - So we are convinced that every detail of our lives **is continually woven together** to fit into God's perfect plan of **bringing good** into our lives...

### **2 Corinthians 4:17-18-Passion**

17 We view our slight, short-lived troubles in the light of eternity. We see our difficulties as the substance that produces for us an eternal, weighty glory far beyond all comparison.

18 And we don't focus our attention on what is seen but on what is unseen, for what is seen is temporary, but the unseen realm is eternal.

**5. God gives you the hope of Heaven.**

### **1 Thessalonians 4:13**

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, **that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.**"

**6. God uses your pain to help others.**

### **2 Corinthians 1:4(NLT).**

He comforts us in all our troubles **so that we can comfort others**. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.