

# Handling Pain

*“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.”* - Romans 8:28

The Apostle Paul believed that every event of life was either planned or permitted by God.

Our understanding of God’s purpose will depend on two conditions:

## Our Relationship With God

### 1. A Positive Relationship.

*“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.”* - Romans 8:28

- The Bible is a “we know” book.
- While we don’t know everything (v. 26), we do know that God knows everything.

### 2. A Personal Relationship.

*“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.”* - Romans 8:28

- The one great condition of Romans 8:28 is that we must love God!

### 3. A Privileged Relationship.

*“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**.”* - Romans 8:28

- ...those who are called according to His purpose.

## Our Realization of God (and His sovereignty)

### 1. God’s Providence

*“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.”* - Romans 8:28

- Do “bad things” happen to us? (see verse 35)
- Still, we can be convinced God can never be separated from us! (see verse 38-39)

1. Good things won’t always happen.
2. Bad things won’t take God away from me.

### 2. God’s Perspective.

*“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.”* - Romans 8:28

- God is above the clouds of our lives, and sees what lies ahead of our present situation.
- He plans and orders our lives like a cake, which needs...
  1. The right ingredients.
  2. The right proportion.
  3. The right temperature.
  4. The right timing.
- \* If we only bite the flour or salt, or bite the uncooked dough, it’s terrible. But if they’re put together right, it’s great!

### 3. God’s Purpose.

*“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**.”* - Romans 8:28

- A. God’s Purpose is inclusive.
- B. God’s Purpose is active.
- C. God’s Purpose is harmonious.
- D. God’s Purpose is beautiful.

I need to develop a...

- Relationship with God (that helps me to trust Him)
- Realization of God (that He’s in control)
- Reliance on God (in all areas of my life)

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- A. God’s Purpose is \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. God’s Purpose is active.
- C. God’s Purpose is harmonious.
- D. God’s Purpose is \_\_\_\_\_.

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