

LIFE IS HARD ... BUT GOD IS GOOD

FROM PROBLEMS TO PRAISE

Psalm 31:1-24 Jeff Schreve

Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am in trouble; my eyes are tired from so much crying; I am completely worn out. I am exhausted by sorrow, and weeping has shortened my life. Psalm 31:9-10 GNB

What do you do when troubles and sorrows engulf your life?

1. Remind yourself that troubles and sorrows are part of life.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you. 1 Peter 4:12

* God's choicest servants often experience severe heartache.

2. Get alone with God and share your heart with Him.

A. Don't sugarcoat your pain.



B. Don't conceal your fears.

*I was afraid and said, "I am in a place where He cannot see me."
Psalm 31:22*

C. Tell the Lord how you feel and let yourself be vulnerable.

3. Get your eyes on the Lord and make a declaration of faith.

*But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD, I say, "You are my God."
My times are in your hand. Psalm 31:14-15*

A. Pray for deliverance with boldness and confidence.

*Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from those who
persecute me. Make Your face to shine upon Your servant;
Save me in Your lovingkindness. Psalm 31:15-16*

*In You, O LORD, I have taken refuge; Let me never be ashamed; In Your
righteousness deliver me. Incline Your ear to me, rescue me quickly; Be to me a
rock of strength, A stronghold to save me. For You are my rock and my fortress.
Psalm 31:1-3*

B. Praise God for who He is and what He has promised.

*How great is Your goodness, Which You have stored up for those
who fear You, Which You have wrought for those who take
refuge in You, Before the sons of men! Psalm 31:19*

*I will rejoice and be glad in Your lovingkindness, Because You have seen my
affliction; You have known the troubles of my soul, And You have not given me
over into the hand of the enemy; You have set my feet in a large place.*

Psalm 31:7-8

C. Face the day with strength, courage, and hope in the Lord.

*Blessed be the LORD, For He has made marvelous His loving-
kindness to me in a besieged city. As for me, I said in my alarm,
"I am cut off from before Your eyes"; Nevertheless You heard
the voice of my supplications When I cried to You. O love the
LORD, all you His godly ones! The LORD preserves the
faithful And fully recompenses the proud doer. Be strong and
let your heart take courage, All you who hope in the LORD.
Psalm 31:21-24*

God will see you through if you will look to Him.