

ROLLING WITH THE PUNCHES

Big Idea

Pastor Curt – Part 6

We continued the series called Rolling With The Punches with this very encouraging message **Life-Lesson #6 Be confident that there is a purpose and an end (to your difficult time)**. Jesus said on the cross, “It is finished” then died. The struggle Jesus went through was part of God’s plan, but it wasn’t the whole plan. Jesus’ death on the cross accomplished God’s plan to offer everyone forgiveness because the sin penalty was paid by Jesus. The next part of God’s plan was Jesus coming back to life again a few days later. The disciples were so overwhelmed by grief, they lost hope. The resurrected Jesus joined two disciples walking home dejected, explained God’s plan, then opened up their eyes to see the completion of God’s plan. That same Jesus wants to open up your eyes too.

Your struggles do have a purpose and your pain has an end. There are times in our lives when we get distracted and disoriented by our pain, lose sight of our purpose and God’s plan for us because of the circumstances, the never-ending struggles, the fog of emotion, we forget God’s truth and promises. In spite of that, we can be confident of God’s activity in our lives based on three of His foundational attributes: **God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. We can also be confident of God’s activity in our lives based on God’s promise to always love me, He always wants the best for me, He has a plan for me, and He will bring me through!** We can be confident that there is a purpose and an end to all things because of the cross and empty tomb.

Discussion Questions

- Describe a time in your life when you could relate to the disciples on the Road to Emmaus - a time when you questioned God or felt like you were in a season of loss or pain. What did you learn through this difficult time?
- Talk about the truth that God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. How does this truth shape your view of Him? How can this truth help you withstand a season of pain? Which of these attributes do you need most now?
- Share a challenging season you've been through that taught you one of the following truths: God loves you, He wants the best for you, He has a plan for you, and He will always bring you through. Since that time, how has this truth impacted your perspective in the face of other challenges?

Prayer Focus

Praise God for being all-powerful, all-knowing and ever-present. Thank Him for the following truths and declare them out loud: God loves you, and through His love, you can endure any season. God wants the best for you, and you have victory in and through Him. God has a plan to prosper you and not to harm you. He gives you hope and a future.

Next Steps

God has a plan for you. Attend the Growth Track to discover your God-given gifts and find out how you can make a difference in the lives of others. As you serve others in your area of gifting, you **will** find purpose in your pain.

Leader Tip Encourage your group members to be transparent about their seasons of struggle or pain. Discuss how a Godly perspective **will** allow them to remain fruitful and effective during those times. Remind them that your Group is a safe place to share. Break into smaller groups to pray for each other during the group meeting.