Lesson 14; Part 5 When God Permits Adversity

Some believe that you are in God’s will when everything is going right and that you are not in God’s will when there are problems. This is not always true. A good example is found in the Old Testament in the life of a man named Job. (See Job, chapters 1 and 2.) He was wealthy, had a beautiful family and loved God with all his heart, yet God allowed him to lose his wealth, his children, and his health. Job’s three friends accused him of doing something wrong because of the severe problems that he had, yet Job was in the will of God the entire time. However, Job continued to love and worship God in the midst of his suffering.

Sometimes, God allows us to go through problems to help us be better equipped for our Christian walk.

1. The testing of you faith develops \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (James 1:3).

2. There are many times that God will allow us to experience problems in order to remove a condition in our lives. In this way we are purified by affliction. Where does God purify us? (Isaiah 48:10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. The trial of our faith is more precious than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 1:7).

4. It is important to maintain a positive attitude and to remember all things are working together for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 8:28).

5. What are we told to do when adversity comes to us? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Peter 4:12-13).

Summary

Living in the will of God is not just trusting Him for the major events of our lives; it is living a life committed to His will every day. We all have a special place in God’s body. The Lord lovingly speaks to us and says, *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you…”* (Jeremiah 29:11-13, NIV). Seek out God’s will for you through His Word and payer. Remember the Lord came to give us life and that more abundantly (John 10: 10).