

**Week 3: Trusting God in Uncertain Times – Building Resilience Through Faith**  
**Speaker: Patricia Driggers**

**Learning to Persevere Through Suffering While Glorifying God**

- God is the Good Shepherd, and we are His sheep.
- Jacob was a sheep—he wrestled with God and was broken, but transformed (Genesis 32:22–32).
- Responses to God's drastic actions.
- God breaks hearts, wills, and strength to make us better (2 Corinthians 12:9–10).

**Good That Came from Trials (Romans 8:28)**

- Fanny Crosby - blind hymn writer who glorified God through song.
- Helen Keller - learned contentment in hardship (Philippians 4:11).
- Joni Eareckson Tada - paralyzed but became a global voice for faith and perseverance.
- Joseph - endured betrayal and prison but rose to save nations.

**Different Names for Trials**

- Valleys, troubles, difficulties, hard times, darkness.
- God develops us in the dark places (Rev. Michael Maupin, 8/27/25).
- God is Lord over the darkness.
- Invite Him into your storm (Psalm 30:5, Job 23:10).

**Thank God for His Care for Us.**

- His ways are higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8–9).
- Pray and praise God in advance, even before the breakthrough.

**Things to Think About (Discussion Questions):**

- Describe a time you wandered from God. How did you sense Him relentlessly seeking you?
- How has God broken you physically, emotionally, and/or spiritually? What was the result?
- What difficulties have you faced in the past, and how did God use those times to shape you?
- What situations are you currently facing that seem hopeless? How do you see God silently working to get you through them?

Pathway to Healing & Restoration | Fall Session: "Standing Firm in Trials"

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PATHWAY TO  
**HEALING AND RESTORATION**

***“Standing Firm  
in Trials”***

**PATHWAYS**  
DISCIPLESHIP SERIES

*Choose your path. Grow in your faith.*

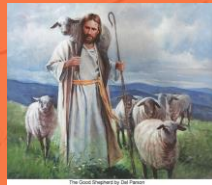
# **Learning to Persevere through Suffering while Glorifying God**



# Sheep

(New Women's Devotional Bible, Zondervan, 2006)

- Sheep sometimes act baaa-aa-aaad and wander from God's path for their lives.
- Good Shepherd relentlessly searches for wayward sheep.
- If sheep refuse to follow, Good Shepherd takes drastic actions.
- Shepherd must break sheep's leg and carry it to help it learn total dependence.
- Tough love breaks sheep to make sure it always follows Good Shepherd.



# Jacob was a Sheep. (Genesis 32:22-32)

- Wandered after fleeing home to escape Esau's wrath (birthright)
- Jacob was alone at Jabbok and God came in form of a man to change Jacob into a different person.
- Drastic action=wrestling match from dusk to dawn
- Jacob would not give up due to his willfulness, so God touched his hip so he would walk with limp rest of his life.
- Reconciled with Esau



# Responses to God's Drastic Actions

(New Women's Devotional Bible, Zondervan, 2006)

- Bitter and turn away from God?
- Cling to God? "I will not let you go unless you bless me."-our will? (Genesis 32:26)
- Climb on Shepherd's shoulder and let Him carry you?



# Breaking-God Breaks us to Make us Better.

(New Women's Devotional Bible, Zondervan, 2006)



- Breaks our heart to make room for Him
- Breaks our will to help us discover His will
- Breaks our physical strength so His strength is made perfect in our weakness



And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

**II Corinthians 12:9**

Therefore, I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

**II Corinthians 12:10**

# Examples of Good that Came from Trials



And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

**Romans 8:28**

# Fanny Crosby

- Caught cold at 6 weeks old
- Imposter doctor treated her with wrong medicine and she went blind.
- Gave heart to God at age 30
- Changed her poetry to these songs:



To God Be the Glory; Praise Him, Praise Him; Tell Me the Story of Jesus



# Helen Keller



- Became blind and deaf at 19 months after intense illness
- Her quote: “Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn whatever state I may be in, therein to be content.”

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. (Paul)

**Philippians 4:11**

# Joni Eareckson Tada

- Diving accident at age 17 broke her neck and severed her spinal cord.
- Became quadriplegic-no movement below her neck
- Shared message via radio, interviews, and books about how to find peace and joy through suffering
- Became inspirational painter, author, and speaker



# Joseph

- Sold into slavery in Egypt by his own brothers at age 17
- Wrongfully imprisoned for 13 years
- Saved Egypt and surrounding lands from famine at age 30

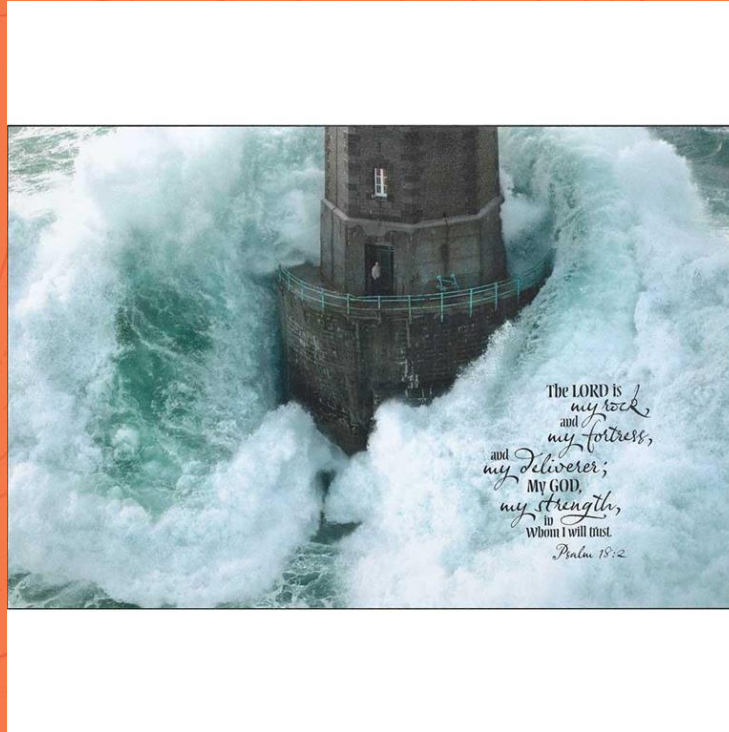


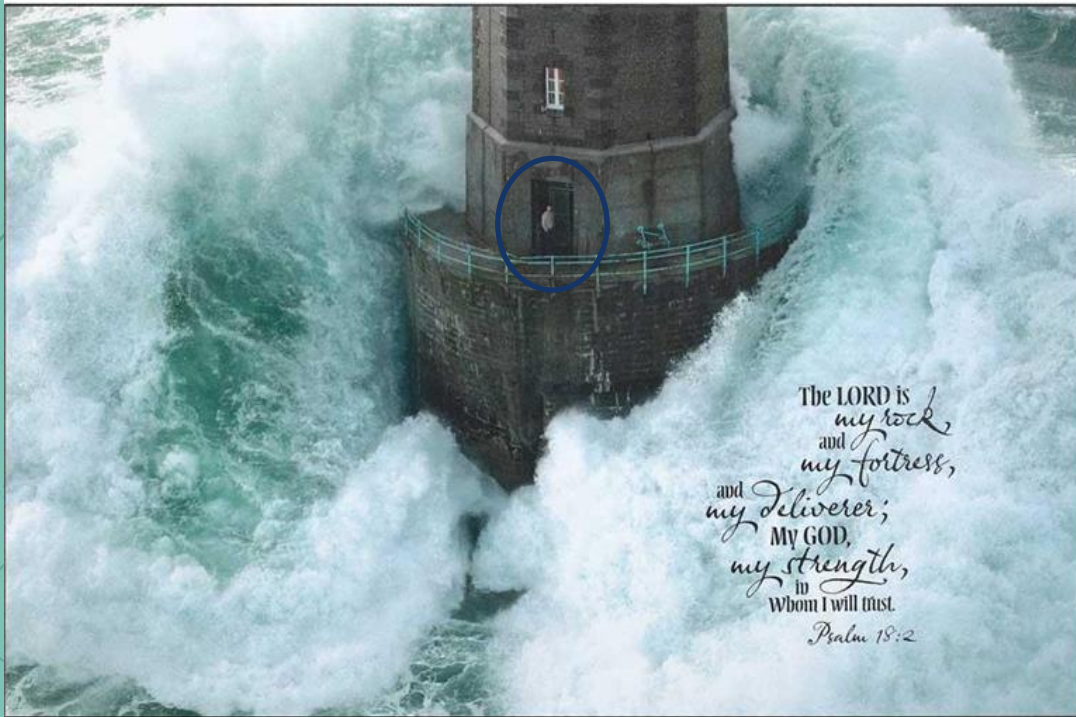
# Joseph's Son' Names

- Manasseh means “God has made me forget all my trouble.”
- Ephraim means “God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering.”

# Different Names for Trials

- Valleys
- Troubles
- Difficulties
- Hard Times
- Darkness





The LORD is  
my rock,  
and  
my fortress,  
and  
my deliverer;  
My GOD,  
my strength,  
to  
whom I will trust.  
*Psalms 18:2*

# **“Developed in Darkness” (Rev. Michael Maupin, 8-27-25)**

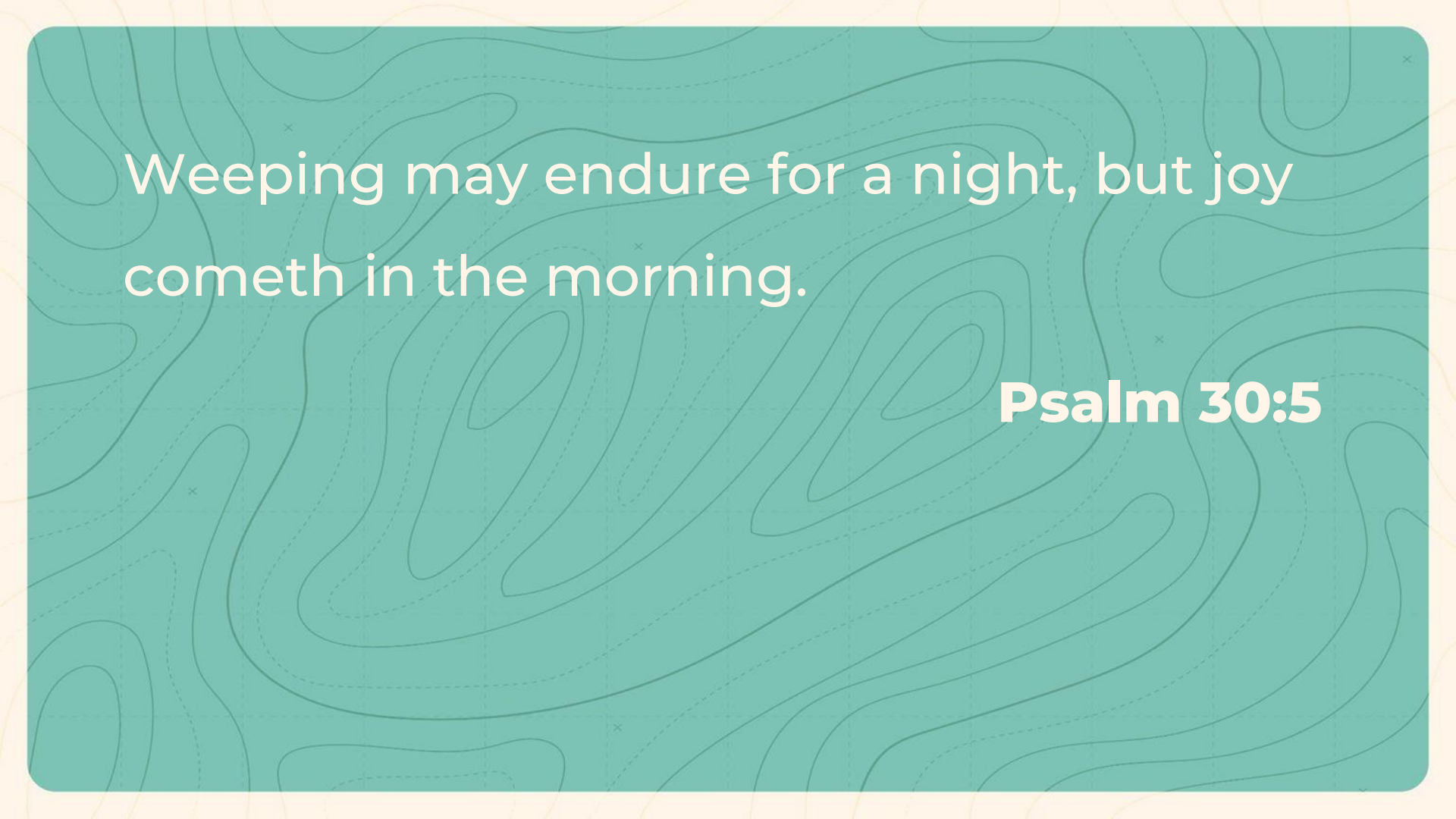
- Darkness is absence of light but not absence of God.
- God is Lord over darkness. In the beginning God took dominion over darkness.



# Developed in Darkness

- God can bless, save, and heal in darkness as well as light.
- He speaks peace in the storm and hope in the darkness.
- Invite Him into your storm.





Weeping may endure for a night, but joy  
cometh in the morning.

**Psalms 30:5**

But he knoweth the way that I take:  
When he hath tried me, I shall come  
forth as gold.



**Job 23:10**

**Thank God for His Care  
for Us Even When We  
Don't Understand His  
Methods.  
His Ways are Higher.**



For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, saith the  
Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the  
earth, so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Isaiah 55:8-9**

# Pray and Praise!!!

praising God  
*in advance*  
restores your  
faith and  
brings peace



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# Next Week

Comfort for Yourself and Others Through  
Scripture

