

December 5, 2010

'With Me in My Pain'

"...God tested Abraham."

~ Genesis 22:1

Key idea today is: Pain is a tool that **God uses for Good in my Life.**

⁴ "He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. ⁵ For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with His comfort through Christ."

~ 2 Corinthians 4:4-5

3 Facts about Pain

1. There is no such thing as a **pain free** life.
2. There is a purpose behind our **pain**.
3. Your greatest contribution to life will be through **your weaknesses - not your strengths**.

3 Things God Does With Pain

1. He **motivates** me with pain.
2. He **guides** me with pain.

"My suffering was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees." ~ Psalms 119:71

"Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as His children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?" ~ Hebrews 12:7

3. He **measures** me with pain.

3 Lessons I Have Learned Through Pain

1. I've learned to **depend on God**.

about the troubles we experienced.... But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God..."

~ 2 Corinthians 1:8-9

2. I've learned to **obey God's word**.
3. I've learned to **trust God no matter what I face**.

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." ~ Romans 8:28

2 common complaints I hear:

My life is **out of control**.

I can't **seem to change**.

"He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him." ~ Psalms 91:15

