



## Hard Times, Promises, and Delight

Do you remember reading the book *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*?

Sometimes in the hard seasons, it is difficult to get beyond the circumstances. Yet, those are also the times we more clearly see God at work in our lives. Maybe because we ask to see Him working. Or even beg to see Him working!

In my Thursday morning Bible study, we are using *Meant for Good: A Study of Joseph* by Donna Snow. In one lesson she wrote, "God never promises to answer our why." (But this doesn't keep me from asking.)

She goes on, "He promises to faithfully walk with us through the *what*. He promises that His almighty presence goes with us through the dark times to usher us back into His glorious light. Grace upon grace!" (p. 112)\*

Those hard times are times

- to learn.
- to lean on God.
- to be strengthened in our faith.

Can you think of a time that was true for you? What are your go-to Scripture verses when you need to hear the promises of God's love and care?

Promises like: *It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed* (Deuteronomy 31:8); or Romans 8:38–39, *For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Along with seeking promises in His Word, I am also going to challenge you to find the delight. The delight? In difficulty? Yes!

Start each day asking two questions: Who will I delight today? How will God delight me?

These questions give a new focus. They make me seek to delight and be delighted — even in the hard seasons. *Great is the LORD, who delights in the welfare of his servant!* (Psalm 35:27b).

I pray that you will find both comfort and delight in your Savior Jesus — no matter the circumstances of today.

Delighting in His grace,

*Eden M. Keefe*

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How will I  
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