

God Works All Things For Your Good



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This picture is of a game called chess. Players take turns moving their pieces on the board. The winner is the one who captures the other player's King. A good chess player doesn't move his pieces any old way. Instead, he has a plan that will help him win the game. He carefully moves each piece according to his plan. Everything he does has a purpose; it all works together to help him accomplish his goal of winning.

God is like a master chess player. He is actively at work in your life controlling everything that happens to you. God is carefully using the events of your life to accomplish his goal. Even when you don't see God at work, he is working for the good of those who love him. Nothing happens that's outside of his control. Everything God does has a purpose; it all works together to accomplish his goal of doing you good. Does this mean life will always be easy and fun? No, sometimes God allows hard things in our lives to give us something better. God knows the greatest good is that we learn to trust Jesus more fully and live lives of joyful obedience to him.

If God controls what happens, and if God's plans are for your good, what can you say about everything that happens to you? What about bad things? Can God use them for your good? Can you think of any stories from the Bible where God used a bad thing for someone's good? (Joseph in prison, David and Goliath, Jesus at the cross). Ask your dad or mom to give you an example of how God used something bad for good in their life.

This promise is a great encouragement in the hard times. Is there anything in your life that you are having a hard time trusting God to work out for your good? What are some ways it could work out for your good? Can God be trusted? How can you know? What would it look like to trust God in your situation?