

# God Speaks through Pain.

*God Speaks : Lesson 7 of 8 : [MANUP.org](http://MANUP.org)*

***“God whispers in our pleasure  
and shouts in our PAIN.” - C.S. Lewis***

## God uses PAIN to . . .

### 1. Get your ATTENTION.

#### Job 42

<sup>1</sup> Then Job replied to the Lord: <sup>2</sup> “I know you can do anything, and no one can stop you. <sup>3</sup> I was talking about things I knew nothing about, things far too wonderful for me.

<sup>4</sup> You said, ‘*Listen and I will speak!*’ <sup>5</sup> I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes.”

***“God uses your rock bottom  
to help you LOOK UP.”***

### 2. Change your DIRECTION.

#### Acts 9

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord’s followers.

<sup>3</sup> As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him.

<sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “*Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?*”

<sup>5</sup> “Who are you lord?” Saul asked. And the voice replied, “*I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!*” <sup>6</sup> *Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.*”

<sup>8</sup> Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind.

<sup>15</sup> The Lord told Ananias, *“Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name’s sake.”*

***“PAIN will take you places that COMFORT will never take you.”***

### **3. Soften your HEART.**

#### **2 Corinthians 1**

<sup>3</sup> All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort.

<sup>4</sup> He comforts us in 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.

<sup>8</sup> We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it.

<sup>9</sup> In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead. <sup>10</sup> And he did rescue us from mortal danger, and he will rescue us again. We have placed our confidence in him, and he will continue to rescue us.

***“God will never USE you until he BREAKS you.”***

### **4. Strengthen your FAITH.**

#### **1 Peter 1**

<sup>6</sup> So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while.

<sup>7</sup> These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold.

So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

## ***Trials + Faith + Endurance = REWARDS***

### **James 1**

<sup>2</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. <sup>3</sup> For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. <sup>4</sup> So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. <sup>12</sup> God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

***“BLESSINGS grow in the soil of PAIN.”***

## **5. Send you on MISSION.**

### **Psalm 66**

<sup>5</sup> Come and see what our God has done, what awesome miracles he performs for people! <sup>10</sup> You have tested us, O God, you have purified us like silver. <sup>11</sup> You captured us in your net and laid the burden of slavery on our backs. <sup>12</sup> Then you put a leader over us. We went through the fire and the flood, but you brought us to a place of great abundance.

<sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he did for me. <sup>17</sup> For I cried out to him for help, praising him as I spoke. <sup>20</sup> Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer or withdraw his unfailing love from me.

***“The loudest sermon you’ll ever preach  
is PRAISING God in the middle of Pain.”***

## **Psalm 67**

<sup>1</sup> May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favor on us. <sup>2</sup> May your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among people everywhere.

<sup>3</sup> May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you. <sup>4</sup> Let the whole world sing for joy, because you govern the nations with justice and guide the people of the whole world.

<sup>5</sup> May the nations praise you O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you. <sup>6</sup> Then the earth will yield it's harvests, and God, our God, will richly bless us. <sup>7</sup> Yes, God will bless us, and people all over the world will fear him.

***“The Voice you FOLLOW  
will determine your FUTURE.”***

## **6. Remind you of HEAVEN.**

### **Revelation 21**

<sup>3-4</sup> God himself will be with them. God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain.

***“The presence of PAIN makes you  
long for the presence of GOD.”***

## **Table Group Discussion:**

**Q:** Where are you experiencing pain?

**Q:** What is God telling you through your pain?

**Q:** How can God use your pain to help others?