

## **Where is God When It Hurts?**

Psalm 42:1-11

Philip Yancey says, “It’s not about how you feel. Feelings can’t be **TRUSTED**.”

The Bible says that the heart is deceitful above all things and **DESPERATELY WICKED**; who can know it. (*Jeremiah 17:9*)

God wants us to choose to love him freely, even when that choice involves **PAIN**.

## **Good and Evil:**

Corrupt **HUMANS** are the ones who bring chaos, grief, suffering and pain.

God’s nature is not to bite but to **HELP**. The unredeemed nature bites, this is what Paul says in Galatians 5:15.

## **How do we redeem that which we can’t seem to remove?**

It starts with the **BELIEF** that all things work together for good to those who love God.

## **Redeeming the Bad: (**ROMANS 8:28**)**

Every major passage in the New Testament on suffering talks about **PATIENCE** and **HOPE** and **PERSEVERANCE** and all these good things – that’s *redeemed* pain.

## **People I know who have redeemed the pain in their lives:**

As Philip Yancey points out, “To judge God by (disasters) ... is to judge God by a beautiful work of art that has been spoiled by a **GRAFFITI ARTIST**.”

Yet, once bad things happen, we have a choice: We can either become resentful and demoralized, or we can look for ways to be resilient and create something good and meaningful.