

The Spire

JUNE 2024



A word from Pastor Doug

This past month we saw one of the most devastating storms I've ever seen. Our town was devastated. Ruth and I had dinner one night after the storm and one of the restaurants patrons, knowing that I was a pastor, came up and asked me this questions....Pastor, **Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people?**

Here's my answer.....

We live in a world of pain and [suffering](#). There is no one who is not affected by the harsh realities of life, and the question "why do bad things happen to good people?" is one of the most difficult questions in all of theology. God is sovereign, so all that happens must have at least been allowed by Him, if not directly caused by Him. At the outset, we must acknowledge that human beings, who are not eternal, infinite, or omniscient, cannot expect to fully understand God's purposes and ways.



Continued on page 2

Service Times

Sunday School Hour.....9:30 – 10:30 am

Worship Service.....10:45 – 12 noon

Wednesday Night Prayer.....6:30 – 7:30 am



The [book of Job](#) deals with the issue of why God allows bad things to happen to good people. Job was a righteous man ([Job 1:1](#)), yet he suffered in ways that are almost beyond belief. God allowed Satan to do everything he wanted to Job except kill him, and Satan did his worst. What was Job's reaction? "Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him" ([Job 13:15](#)). "The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised" ([Job 1:21](#)). Job did not understand why God had allowed the things He did, but he knew God was good and therefore continued to trust in Him. Ultimately, that should be our reaction as well.

Why do bad things happen to good people? As hard as it is to acknowledge, we must remember that there are no "good" people, in the absolute sense of the word. All of us are tainted by and infected with sin ([Ecclesiastes 7:20](#); [Romans 3:23](#); [1 John 1:8](#)). As Jesus said, "No one is good—except God alone" ([Luke 18:19](#)). All of us feel the effects of sin in one way or another. Sometimes it's our own personal sin; other times, it's the sins of others. We live in a fallen world, and we experience the effects of the fall. One of those effects is injustice and seemingly senseless suffering.

When wondering why God would allow bad things to happen to good people, it's also good to consider these four things about the bad things that happen:

- 1) Bad things may happen to good people in this world, *but this world is not the end*. Christians have an eternal perspective: "We do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal" ([2 Corinthians 4:16–18](#)). We will have a reward some day, and it will be glorious.
- 2) Bad things happen to good people, *but God uses those bad things for an ultimate, lasting good*. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" ([Romans 8:28](#)). When Joseph, innocent of wrongdoing, finally came through his horrific sufferings, he was able to see God's good plan in it all (see [Genesis 50:19–21](#)).
- 3) Bad things happen to good people, *but those bad things equip believers for deeper ministry*. "Praise be to . . . the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ" ([2 Corinthians 1:3–5](#)). Those with battle scars can better help those going through battles.
- 4) Bad things happen to good people, *and the worst things happened to the best Person*. Jesus was the only truly Righteous One, yet He suffered more than we can imagine. We follow in His footsteps: "If you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly" ([1 Peter 2:20–23](#)). Jesus is no stranger to our pain.

[Romans 5:8](#) declares, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Despite the sinful nature of the people of this world, God still loves us. Jesus loved us enough to die to take the penalty for our sins ([Romans 6:23](#)). If we receive Jesus Christ as Savior ([John 3:16](#); [Romans 10:9](#)), we will be forgiven and promised an eternal home in heaven ([Romans 8:1](#)).

God allows things to happen for a reason. Whether or not we understand His reasons, we must remember that God is good, just, loving, and merciful ([Psalm 135:3](#)). Often, bad things happen to us that we simply cannot understand. Instead of doubting God's goodness, our reaction should be to trust Him. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight" ([Proverbs 3:5–6](#)). We walk by faith, not by sight.

Blessings, *Pastor Doug*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 South Dakota Mission Trip Departs
2	3	4 Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM	5	6	7	8 South Dakota Mission Trip returns
9 Taco Lunch Prayer Meeting 5:00 PM	10 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM	11 Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM	12 Nominating Committee 6:30 PM	13 Const. Committee 6:00 PM	14	15
16 Prayer Meeting 5:00 PM	17 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM	18 Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM	19 R.A.G. @ 6:00 PM	20 Church Council @ 6:00 PM	21	22 OKC Mission Trip Leaves
23 Prayer Meeting 5:00 PM	24 Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM	25 Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM	26 Celebrate Committee @ 6 PM	27	28	29 OKC Mission Trip returns
30 Picnic in the Park 10:30 am - Noon						

Fun Facts About June

1. June is the month with the longest daylight hours of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, and conversely, June has the shortest daylight hours of the year in the Southern Hemisphere.
2. The name June came from the Roman goddess Juno who was the goddess of marriage, childbirth, and love.
3. June 5 is World Environment Day—a day meant to raise environmental awareness across the globe.
4. June 24 brings Midsummer Day, traditionally the midpoint of the growing season, halfway between planting and harvesting.
5. More Nobel prize winners are born in June, than in any other month.
6. The longest baseball game in history was played in June 1984, between the Milwaukee Brewers and the Chicago White Sox.

Upcoming EVENTS





Bible Word Search

Name: _____

**God is Love**

X	S	G	M	E	R	C	Y	J	K
E	A	L	D	W	I	S	D	O	M
F	L	P	O	J	F	H	I	T	V
O	V	A	O	V	H	E	J	E	G
R	A	T	V	Q	E	A	W	A	R
G	T	I	R	D	A	L	E	C	A
I	I	E	F	A	I	T	H	H	C
V	O	N	Y	M	P	A	L	E	E
E	N	C	T	R	U	S	T	R	E
Q	Q	E	K	K	G	U	I	D	E

Word list:

FAITH
 FORGIVE
 GRACE
 GUIDE
 HEAL
 LOVE
 MERCY
 PATIENCE
 SALVATION
 TEACHER
 TRUST
 WISDOM



Bible Word Search: APOSTLES / DISCIPLES

B J N K F D E A Z T E T G D M
 Y A T O S K L M W H D H K D S
 M S R I O P S E X A I O F S K
 S P M T H Z H P H D E M T F B
 O O C A H T Y V X D E A N H W
 N N E T T O D J I A D S S E P
 S U R A R P L P R E E C U Y M
 S A M B I H H O X U B U H A G
 T O I R A C S I M S E L P T L
 T T N H S O Z F L E Z N U S B
 N L U M T P L I R I W A L A T
 H R J Q T T Z I A D P Q B X P
 N H O J G C A N D R E W R M W
 U M W J F J W M R R D J D W F
 H X Y S U S W L P K R O R E P

SIMON Peter

ANDREW

James ZEBEDEE

JOHN

PHILIP

BARTHOLOMEW

THOMAS

MATTHEW

James ALPHAEUS

THADDAEUS

SIMON

Judas ISCARIOT

MATTHIAS

PAUL

Instructions:

Find and circle the words shown in all capital letters. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.

After Judas betrayed Christ, Matthias was chosen by the disciples to take his place. Saul (who changed his name to Paul) was chosen by Jesus. (Acts 9:3-6). The apostles are listed in Matthew 10:2-4.



Ephesians 5

When reading Ephesians 5, it is important to remember the order in which Ephesians is written. The first three chapters are filled with Paul writing about the greatness of Christ and how he reconciled us to the Father. He clearly demonstrates that we are saved only because of what Christ has done, and not at all because of what we have done. So, when we read Paul writing about how Christians

should live, it is not because we are trying to earn something, but instead because we want to honor God with our lives in response to him giving his life for us.

5:1-21

1-6: Paul is giving a list of things that believers should abstain from doing. **Sexual impurity, covetousness, and crude joking** are all things that Christians should fight from partaking in.

7-16: Paul is telling us to **not become partners with them** (that is, in their sin). Instead, Christians are to **walk as children of light**, striving to please the Lord in their actions.

Question: In verse five Paul calls sexual immorality and covetousness idolatry. The Biblical sexual ethic (that sex and sexual relationships are designed to take place in the covenant of a marriage between a man and a woman) is a radical position in our culture. Both sexual immorality and covetousness (though that is *much* easier to hide), take place at their root because of idolatry. In fact, all sin can be found to be rooted in idolatry. Why is that the case?

Question: Can you share a time when your idolatry over something lead you to sin?

Question: We cannot forget that we are all sinners and cannot consistently live the Christian life without the help of the Holy Spirit. How often to you ask for the Spirit's guidance and help in your life?

5:22-33

22-24: Notice that this verse is not saying all women should submit to all men, it is strictly speaking in terms of the marriage relationship. These verses also do not say women have less value than men (Galatians 3:26 shows us we are all equal before the Lord!). Instead, it is saying that wives should respect the leadership of their husbands as the church follows the leadership and headship of Christ.

25-29: Husbands are to love their wives **as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her**. This does not just mean sacrificing your life for your wife's life in a dangerous situation. It means sacrificing your wants and needs for hers. As the leader of the family, if the husband does this well, the wife will much more willingly want to submit to his headship.

31-32: Marriage, in a mysterious way, displays the relationship between Christ and the church.

Question: The idea of submission/headship is a touchy subject in our society today. Especially with so many broken homes and with so few people seeing a marriage like this done well. However, the marriage relationship in a mysterious way, represents Christ's relationship to the church. Therefore, 1) How can and should husbands practically love their wife and put her first? 2) How can wives respect their husbands, and what does it look like to submit to his headship in a healthy way?

Question: If you show me a husband who loves his wife well and puts her needs before his own, I can show you a wife who has no issues respecting and following her husband. Just as we submit to Christ because he gave his life for our salvation; we know we can trust him. Have you ever had someone (a boss, mentor, teacher, parent, etc.) that you gladly followed because you knew they loved and wanted what was best for you? What was it about them that made you want to follow and trust them?



The Bulletin Board



UPCOMING EVENTS

Prayer Meeting , Sunday Evenings at 5:00 PM.
 Constitution Committee, June 16th @ 6:00 PM
 Celebration Committee Meeting, June 26th @ 6:30 PM



5:00 PM



June 20th @ 6:00 PM



Ladies Bible Study Begins
June 10th

NOTE: See Pastor Doug to have any future events placed into the monthly newsletter.

First Southern Baptist Church

1101 South Albany St.
Yuma, Co 80759