

A GOOD GOD PSALM 46

"The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble."

PSALM 9:9



When my brother-in-law was a missionary in Mali, West Africa, he was involved in a traffic accident. A man had wandered into the road in front of Chuck's motorcycle. The cycle struck the man and sent Chuck and the bike sliding along the ground for more than 200 feet. Shortly after Chuck regained consciousness in the hospital, his doctor told him he had been "really lucky." Chuck smiled and replied, "God is good."

Later he thought about the day's events. The man who was struck hadn't received any permanent injuries, and Chuck would also recover from his injuries. But what if one of them had been killed? He thought, *God would be no less good*.

When we experience tragedy, we may wonder about God's goodness. Is God always good? Yes, He is. He doesn't promise that bad things will never happen to us, but He does promise to be "our refuge and strength" (Psalm 46:1). He doesn't promise that we will never walk through heartwrenching circumstances, but He promises that we won't be alone (23:4).

God is good - no matter what suffering we are experiencing. Even when we don't understand, we can say with Habakkuk, "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation" (3:18).

Cindy Hess Kasper

God tests our faith so we may trust His faithfulness.

FIVE STEPS IN LEADING YOUR FAMILY IN DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER TIME

- **1st** Take a few minutes to discuss the Scripture *Insight discussion/Application discussion*
- **2nd** Ask your family for personal praises *Works of God! Blessings from above*
- 3rd Take personal prayer requests
 - Needs
 - Concerns
 - Desires
- 4th Personal quiet time of confession and forgiveness
 - •Things I have said
 - •Things others have said
 - •Things I have thought
 - •Things I have done
 - •Things others have done to me

5th - Pray

- •Start by thanking the Lord
- Needs
- Protection
- Provision