

What if?



### Lesson 3: What if we saw our problems from God's perspective?

What if we saw our problems from God's perspective?

God sees our problems as an opportunity

1. God sees our problems as an opportunity to be there for us

*2 Kings 6:15* When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked. *New International Version*

*2 Kings 6:16* "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." *New International Version*

*2 Kings 6:17* And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see." Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. *New International Version*

*Psalms 34:7* For the angel of the LORD is a guard; he surrounds and defends all who fear him. *New Living Translation-SE*

2. God sees our problems as an opportunity to grow us

*James 1:2* Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. *3* For you know that when your faith is tested, your **endurance has a chance to grow**. *4* So let it grow, for when your endurance is **fully developed**, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. *New Living Translation-SE*

3. God sees our problems as an opportunity to comfort and strengthen us

*Psalms 23:4* Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. *New International Version*

*2 Corinthians 1:3* All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and **the source of all comfort**. *4* He comforts us in all 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. *New Living Translation-SE*

*2 Corinthians 12:8* Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. *9* Each time he said, “**My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.**” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, **so that the power of Christ can work through me**. *10* That’s why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.** *New Living Translation-SE*

4. God sees our problems as an opportunity to rescue us

*Psalms 91:14* “Because he loves me,” says the LORD, “**I will rescue**

**him**; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. *15* He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, **I will deliver him** and honor him. *16* With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.” *New International Version*

*2 Timothy 4:18* The Lord **will rescue me** from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen. *New International Version*

5. God sees our problems as an opportunity to restore us

*Joel 2:25* And **I will restore to you** the years that the locust hath eaten, the canker-worm, and the caterpillar... *American Standard Version*