

When Trials Turn to Gold

Sometimes, it seems we give the devil too much credit for our difficult times. It seems like every time something goes wrong, he gets the blame despite the fact that he might not have even been in town that weekend! Although spiritual warfare is intense in the pro-life movement, God can use trials to help us become more dependent on Him.

One of the most difficult trials is a friend's betrayal. Imagine in the Garden of Gethsemane – right before Judas's kiss. Jesus went there to pray with Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and made a simple request. *"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."* (Matt 26:38). Wouldn't you do that for our Savior? Not these guys – they fell asleep three times! *"The spirit is willing but the body is weak,"* (Matt 26:41) was Jesus' response.

Confidants can easily let us down in times of trouble, but God uses those times to help you discover your real friends! Our Lord is the author of our trials and will never waste our pain. Once the situation is past, we can usually see His plan. It's like the old saying, "Sometimes God takes us so low that we can't help but look up!"

God uses each difficult event in our lives to bring us closer to Him. Next time you feel sorrowful; remember that Jesus is the best friend you will ever have! Praise Him for the testing and understand that it will make you stronger for the work ahead!