

## Life Week 2022 Devotion – Day 4

### God Chose You for a Purpose

Romans 5:3b-5: "... but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame ...."

Who wants dementia? Who wants to see family members once vibrant and strong now debilitated, forgetful, and dependent? Who wants to lose a child in the womb or experience any number of mental disabilities? Who wants to be financially challenged or go through unemployment? Life in this sin filled world ushers in varied challenges. Through them we can look for the ways that God chooses you for a purpose!

First, God chooses you for the purpose of having faith. He chooses you in Christ to be His son or daughter! Just before this passage, Romans 5 opens with the wonderful word "Therefore." Everything before applies to you—the Law makes you guilty; there is no hope in you; there is no hope in your works; there is only hope in being. Romans 3:24-25: "...justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith." God chooses you to have faith and be at peace with Him, that is, to live no longer as His enemy.

Now, at peace with God, He chooses to pour His love into your hearts continually through the Holy Spirit. To be sure, evildoers outside of God's love and forgiveness remain under His wrath and still experience dementia. They still suffer the sorrow of losing children. They go through life with mental disabilities, financial challenges, and unemployment. They do so without hope. **Your God has chosen you in Christ to have hope!** Hope of the glory of Christ being yours on the Day of Resurrection. Hope in the ultimate release from all suffering as you enter eternal rest and peace, restored to life before the face of God who loves you!

God chooses you for a purpose—especially in your suffering—to build you up in faith as you equip others to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life!