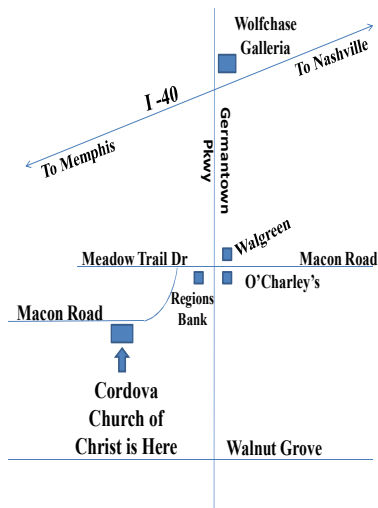


The Cordova Connector

...Connecting our community to Christ

A Publication of the Cordova Church of Christ

Romans 16:16



Rick Owens, Minister
7801 Macon Road
Cordova, TN 38018
(901) 754-9893
www.cordovacoc.com

Connecting to Life

When Life Doesn't Make Sense: Part 2

Allen Webster

Faith Must Be Tested to Be Genuine.

Do you remember those public service announcements that began, "This is a test"? When going through trials, we can say to ourselves, "This is a test." Times of crisis prove our friendship with God and declare the authenticity of our faith. Do we love God because He provides gifts? Do we love those gifts more than we love the Giver? This was the accusation Satan made against Job (Job 1:8-12; cf. 1 Peter 1:6-9). All the things we cling to in this world will eventually disappear. The One who gives them is all that will ultimately remain.

Simple answers sometimes are enough.

R. C. Sproul offers an interesting insight in his book, *Not a Chance*. He notes that when a child asks a complicated question, or one that he is not yet ready to understand, a parent's simple reply is, "Because." "Because" implies that there is an answer but does not give all of it. As God's children, sometimes it must suffice to accept "because" when we ask "why?" In Job's trial, as well as in ours, part of the test is not knowing the reason for the suffering. Jesus neither gave long explanations of evil nor ignored it (Luke 4:18-19).

Vance Havner remarked, "God marks across some of our days, 'Will explain later.'" He continued, "One day of green pastures and still waters is followed by dark valleys and miry swamps, and a thousand 'whys' lie unanswered, tabled for future reference." Warren Wiersbe wrote, "God's people live by promises, not by explanations." What promises do we have when life does not make sense?

Continued on page 2...

Connecting to Jesus

A Message from the King

The key word in Matthew 11:28-30 is "rest." "Rest" means "relief from crushing burdens, such as crippling anxiety, frustration, futility, and the misery of a sin-laden conscience." Therefore, Jesus gives three commands that precede this wonderful rest:

1. Come. The weight of sin is a heavy burden. Jesus relieves the heaviness of sin through forgiveness.
2. Take. It was the custom of students to attach themselves to their teacher. It was called "yoked."
3. Learn. We must never cease studying and searching the Bible to learn about Jesus. — *Mark N. Posey*

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." - Matthew 11:28-30

House To House Heart To Heart, Volume 17 #5

Connecting to Life continued ...

We have the assurance of God's presence. While God never promised life would be problem-free, He did promise to be with His people (Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5; Psalm 46:5-7). God was with David in the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23). He was with the three Hebrew men in the fiery furnace (Daniel 3) and with Daniel in the lion's den (Daniel 6). God sent an angel to the garden to strengthen Jesus (Luke 22:43). God is not a disinterested spectator in our lives. He is neither distant nor disengaged. He does care (1 Peter 5:7). Even when we are afraid, through faith we can sing, "What a fellowship, what a joy divine, safe and secure from all alarms."

We have the assurance of God's peace (John 14:27; 16:33; 20:19-21; Ephesians 2:12-14; 1 Peter 5:14).

We have the assurance of God's providence (Romans 8:28). Rather than asking "Where is God?" or "Why me?" let us ask, "What can I learn from this?" and "Who can I help because of this?" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). College classes are not easy, but they prepare us to be of service after graduation. Life's problems are not easy, but they qualify us to serve in ways we never could otherwise.

Glad Tidings of Good Things Archives [06-06-13](#)

Connecting to God's Word

1. Romans 1:16: The gospel is God's _____ to _____.
2. I Corinthians 15:1-4: According to the Scriptures, the gospel consists of three things Christ did, what are they?
3. Romans 6:3-5: We can be connected to the gospel through _____.
4. Galatians 2:20: How did the gospel make Paul different?
5. Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16: Upon hearing the gospel how did those on Pentecost and Saul of Tarsus (Paul) have their sins forgiven?

Connecting to His Church

7801 Macon Road ~ Cordova, TN 38018

Monthly activity for youth groups of all ages!

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship	10:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship	1:00 P. M.
Wed. Bible Study	7:00 P.M.
(Attended nursery at all services)	

Please contact us at (901) 754-9893 to receive a free DVD entitled "The Silencing of God".