

## **LIVING BEYOND YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES**

*with Joni Eareckson Tada*

The search for answers to “why?”

### **1. How am I going to make it?**

- Suffering is not about some “thing” that can be answered easily.

### **2. The answers don't always heal.**

- You don't stop the “bleeding” with answers, however true that are.
- The hurting person is like a “child.”

### **3. We need “Fatherly assurance” during times of pain.**

- Daddy's here
- God must be at the center of our suffering: He is good.

### **4. The answer is not something, but someone: Our “Good Daddy.”**

- Psalm 18     A High Fortress
- Psalm 10     Father
- Isaiah 54     Husband
- Isaiah 62     Bridegroom
- Exodus 15     Healer
- Isaiah 9     Wonderful Counselor
- John 4     Living Water
- John 6     Bread of Heaven

*God IS the answer!*

## 5. God allows suffering so nothing comes between Him and us.

*Romans 8:35:* "For who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?"

- II Corinthians 4:7-10

## 6. When we struggle with doubt of the goodness of God, look to Jesus' sufferings.

- "When suffering, the only answer that satisfies is to think of that greater affliction, Christ on the Cross." -Thomas Burton

## 7. Our weakness drives us to God.

- II Corinthians 7:8-11
- Philippians 3:20-21

## 8. God will wipe away every tear!

- Revelations 7:17

## 9. Earth crushes our illusions, but don't get too comfortable on Earth

- Heaven is reality.

## 10. New bodies, new hearts: The weaker we are, the more we lean on Christ.

## 11. We share in Christ's sufferings. Life is tough:

- We go to God because we have to.

*God is our 'Good Daddy' and has made your life beautiful.*