

Everything Happens for a Reason

The Bible Doesn't Say That | Week 4

Nate Marsh | October 4, 2026

John 8:31–32

1. _____ IS REAL.

Romans 8:28

Faith does not require us to call something good when it is not good.

Biblical faith gives us room to grieve.

John 11:33–35

2. _____ IS WORKING.

Genesis 37–41

What people mean for harm, God can redeem for good.



3. _____ MAY BE HIDDEN.

Romans 8:29a (NLT)

Questions for Further Study

1. When you hear someone say, “Everything happens for a reason,” what do you think they usually mean? Have you ever found that statement comforting—or frustrating?
2. Read Romans 8:18–27, the verses immediately before Romans 8:28. What words or ideas describe suffering in this passage? How does that context change the way you understand verse 28?
3. The sermon says that sometimes God changes our circumstances, while other times He changes us in the middle of circumstances we would never have chosen. Where have you seen God develop something in you—patience, compassion, dependence, forgiveness, endurance—through a difficult season?
4. Someone you care about experiences a major loss. Instead of saying, “Everything happens for a reason,” what could you say or do that would better reflect the heart of Jesus?
5. Read Revelation 21:1–5. How does the promise that God will ultimately “make all things new” give us hope when there are things in this life that never receive a satisfying explanation?