



WORLD CHALLENGE®, INC.

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Dearly Beloved:

WHEN YOU HURT—GO TO YOUR SECRET CLOSET AND WEEP OUT ALL YOUR DESPAIR!

Jesus wept. Peter wept—bitterly! Peter carried with him the hurt of having denied the very Son of God. Yet those bitter tears worked in him a sweet miracle. He came back to shake the kingdom of Satan.

Jesus never looks away from a crying heart. God's Word says, "A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Psalm 51:17). Not once will the Lord tell anyone, "Get hold of yourself! Stand up and take your medicine. Grit your teeth and dry your tears." No—Jesus stores every tear in his eternal container.

Do you hurt? Badly? Then go ahead and cry. And keep on crying until the tears stop flowing. But let those tears originate only from hurt, and not from unbelief or self-pity.

Life does go on after your crying. You would be surprised how much you can bear, with God helping you. Happiness is not living without pain or hurt. True happiness is learning how to live one day at a time in spite of all the sorrow and pain. It is learning how to rejoice in the Lord no matter what has happened in the past.

You may feel rejected or abandoned. Your faith may be weak. You may think you're down for the count. Sorrow, tears, pain and emptiness may swallow you up at times. But God is still on his throne. He is still God!

You can't help yourself; you can't stop the pain and hurt. But our blessed Lord will come to you. He will place his loving hand under you and lift you up to sit again in heavenly places. He will deliver you from all fears—and he will reveal his endless love for you.

Look up! Encourage yourself in the Lord. When the fog surrounds you and you can't see any way out of your dilemma, lie back in the arms of Jesus and simply trust in him. He wants your faith, your confidence. He wants you to cry aloud, "Jesus loves me! He is with me, and he will not fail me. In fact, he's working it all out right now. Therefore, I will not be cast down. I will not be defeated. And I will not be a victim of Satan. God is on my side! I love him, and he loves me."

The bottom line is faith. And faith rests on this one absolute: "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper" (Isaiah 54:17).

Thank you for your faithfulness to our worldwide ministries to the poor, needy, widowed and fatherless. Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated and needed at this time. For information on these outreaches and others, visit: www.worldchallenge.org.

In Christ,

DAVID WILKERSON

DW:bbm