

December 17, 2021

## From Sin to Glory

[John 9:1-7](#)

*“It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered.*

*“This happened so the power of God could be seen in him.”*

Tragedy. There’s no way we can go through this life and escape some sort of tragedy or upheaval in our lives. For most, there will be multiple times of trouble that we have to overcome. When those things happen, we have a choice to make. We can either let tragedy destroy and defeat us, or we can let it make us a better person and use it to glorify God. We live in a sinful world, and those bad times are going to come our way -- no matter what.

In my life I can think of three times I have really struggled with difficult times. Twice, my career Army husband was deployed to the Middle East. Once when we’d only been married six weeks, at the ages of 20 and 22, then again 14 years and three children later. The fallout from those deployments led to my second disaster...marriage trouble. After lots of fights and counseling, we came through it better and stronger. Closer to each other, but more importantly, closer to God.

My latest strife was that in June I was diagnosed with breast cancer. It was very small and caught early, so that was a blessing. After receiving the diagnosis and getting a treatment plan together, I never shed one tear. I felt very much at peace and had faith that God was in control. I’m struggling a little bit right now with some side effects of the meds, but as in all troubles before this, I know I’ll come through better, stronger, and closer to God.

When these curve balls are thrown our way, we need to learn from them and use them to glorify God. Because of our previous marital problems, we have been able to start a marriage ministry to try to help other couples strengthen their marriages and learn from our experiences.

As for my current situation, I’ve been helped so much by others who have already walked this path. That wisdom is where I draw my peace, and I am so thankful that they’re glorifying God through their experiences. During Advent, let’s reflect on what the enemy wanted to use to destroy us, and let it empower us to glorify God! God is good...ALL THE TIME!!!

***Prayer:** Heavenly and Gracious Father, Lord God, we thank you that even in the midst of our trials and tribulations that you create a way for us to use our experiences to glorify you. It’s okay for us to get angry, to grieve, but help us to never get stuck there, to draw closer to you, and to use all of our experiences, good and bad, for Your good. In Christ’s Most Precious Name. Amen.*

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