

## "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him."

"Lord of all Creation, it is in times like this that we are truly faced with a test of our faith. Whether in fear and uncertainty we look to ourselves, our own resources. our own wisdom, and our own understanding...or in fullness of faith we turn our hearts towards you, your sovereignty, your provision, and vour protection. Today, we choose the joy and peace only you can give as we navigate tough roads together as friends, families, and communities of true faith. In the name of Jesus, the only name under heaven by which man must be saved. Amen!"

"Father, I am tempted to worry about so many things. Our world is a mess! Forgive me for focusing on anything or anyone but You. Thank you for the Bible that equips and empowers me to live each day. Right now, I declare that You are my only Hope. Please help me remember that You really are in control. In Jesus" name, Amen." -Mary Southerland

"In these times of uncertainty, God I am thankfully reminded of what is written in Romans 8:26-28... in the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans, and He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, and who have been called according to His purpose."

"Prayer for a Pandemic: May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake. May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable. May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent. May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options. May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of economic effect remember those who have no margin at all. May we who settle in for a guarantine at home remember those who have no home. As fear grips our country and our world, let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen."

"God we declare that You are still on the throne! You are good! You are stronger than this virus! You are greater than the panic and fear! You are bigger and clearer than the confusion! In this time of uncertainty, I confess it is easy to forget who You are. I declare the truth to remind myself and others that I do not need to be afraid. Just as in Mark 4:35-41 you stilled the storm with a word; I trust you to still the storm in my mind and soul."

An Excerpt from 31 days of Praise by Ruth Myers Day 18 Father, I'm so delighted that You are both loving and sovereign, and that You cause all things to work together for good to those who love You, to those who are called according to Your purpose. So I thank You for each disturbing or humbling situation in my life, for each breaking or cleansing process you are allowing, for each problem or hindrance, for each thing that triggers in me anxiety or anger or pain And I thank You in advance for each disappointment, each demanding duty, each pressure, each interruption that may arise in the coming hours and days.

In spite of what I think or feel when I get my eyes off You, I choose not to resist my trials as intruders, but to welcome them as friends.

Thank You that each difficulty is an opportunity to see You work... that in Your time You will bring me out to a place of abundance. I rejoice that You plan to enrich and beautify me through each problem, each conflict, each struggle...that through them You expose my weaknesses and needs, my hidden sins, my selfcenteredness (and especially mv self-reliance and pride). Than You that You use trials to humble me and perfect my faith and produce in me the quality of endurance...that they prepare the soil of my heart for the fresh new growth in godliness that You and I both long to see in me... and that my momentary troubles are producing for me an eternal glory that far outweighs them all, as I keep my eyes focused on You. I'm grateful that You look beyond my superficial desire for a trouble-free life; instead, You fulfill my deep-down desire to glorify You, enjoy Your warm fellowship, and become more like Your Son.

I thank You for the bitter things They've been a friend to grace,

They've driven me from the paths of ease

To storm the secret place.

-Florence White Willett

## [scripture references by page]

## 1. Romans 8:28-29; 1 Peter 1:6-7

## 2. James 1:2-4

3. Psalm 68:8-12; 138:7-8; Job 23:10; Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 16-17; 2 Corinthians 4:17-18; John 12:27-28

