**COURAGE 13: TODAY’S TROUBLES** 2019-09-01

* *Recap*: last week we discussed the idea that troubles and difficulties are there very things that get us to grow, develop and become mature Christians
* We discussed that God’s ultimate purpose for our growth and development will always be us to live and love like Jesus did.
* But what are we to do, if the troubles just keep on coming?

**MATTHEW 6:24-34(NLTSE)**

* In vs 34 of this passage, Jesus guarantees us that each day will bring trouble

**JOHN 16:33(NLTSE)** I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth ***you will have many trials and sorrows***. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.

* Sometimes it might not be trouble directed at us specifically, but rather a situation where we can help someone in their time of trouble.
* God’s good news for this guarantee of trouble is this:

**LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23(NLTSE)** “The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; ***His mercies begin afresh each morning***.”

* So for each new trouble that the new day brings, God has new mercies for that day
* It’s called mercies because of His amazing grace over our lives. When we are weak, He is strong

**2 CORINTHIANS 12:9-10(NLTSE)** “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That’s why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong”

* Our lives will change dramatically if we viewed each trouble as an opportunity for growth instead of complaining

**PHILIPPIANS 2:14(NLTSE)** Do everything without complaining and arguing

* If we really believe what ROMANS 8:28says, we’ll see every trouble as an opportunity for growth and the hand of God to move

**ROMANS 8:28(NLTSE)** And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them

* Jesus was not exempt from troubles either:

**HEBREWS 5:8(NLTSE)** Even though Jesus was God’s Son, he learned obedience from the things He suffered

* One of the roles that Jesus filled while here on earth and continues today, is one of a priest. Someone who stands in the gap for others:

**HEBREWS 7:25(NLTSE)** Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. ***He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf***

* As Christians today, we have the awesome responsibility and privilege, of interceding for this dying world. Not only in fervent prayer but also by showing them that Jesus Christ is the only hope that one should ever count on:

**COLOSSIANS 1:27(NKJV)** To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory

**CARE GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. Discuss what you think, are some of the most troubling things facing people today.
2. Why do you think that God just doesn’t stop trouble from coming our way altogether? Answer this in view of what HEBREWS 5:8 says
3. What kind of fruit, are your present troubles causing in your life right now? Discuss why you think you’re seeing the fruit you are.
4. Pray for one another in the group, about the difficulties you’re facing