

# **This Is Real Life: Your Experiences Are The Groundwork For "Your" Ministry**

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February 2, 2018

## **Your Experiences Are The Groundwork For "Your" Ministry!**

### **This Is Real Life, Pt.5**

#### **Theme Verses:**

**Psalm 139:13**, *You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.*

**Psalm 139:7**, *Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," 12 even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day...*

**Proverbs 24:16**, *For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again...*

#### **How To Make The Most Of Your Experiences:**

**Relational ~ Educational ~ Spiritual ~ Vocational ~ Painful**

#### **You Must ACCEPT Your Experiences**

**Galatians 3:4**, *Have you experienced so much in vain...*

**Deuteronomy 11:2**, *Remember today that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the Lord your*

God...

## **You Must LEARN The Lessons From Your Experiences**

**Romans 8:28**, *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.*

**Genesis 50:20**, *You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.*

## **You Must Utilize Your Experiences To HELP OTHERS**

**Titus 3:14**, *Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives.*

### **How To Utilize Your Experiences to Help Others:**

#### **-Utilize Your Experiences To COMFORT OTHERS**

**2 Corinthians 1:3**, *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 Who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God... 6 If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. 7 And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.*

#### **-Utilize Your Experiences To ENCOURAGE OTHERS**

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**, *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

**1 Corinthians 4:6**, *Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us ... Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other.*

#### **-Utilize Your Experiences As An EXAMPLE For Others**

**Philippians 3:17**, *Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.*

**1 Timothy 4:12**, *Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.*

**-Utilize Your Experiences To GUIDE And TEACH Others**

**Philippians 4:8**, *Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

**Philippians 1:12**, *Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.*

**Care Ministries at Cottonwood:**

Cancer Ministry, Celebrate Recovery, Christian Counseling, Divorce Care, Divorce Care for Kids, GriefShare, Marriage Mentoring, Woven - Adoption/Foster Care and Support Ministry, Stephen Ministry, Parkinson's Support Group and more.

*\*If you are a cancer survivor, a care giver, or want to know more about the Cancer Ministry please attend The Cancer Ministry Survivor Luncheon today at 12:15p in the Worship Center Atrium*