

# When God Doesn't Make Sense

## A World Undone

God's world is full of good things. Ice-cold lemonade. The laughter of children. College football. Scrambled eggs and crispy bacon. A late night with old friends around a blazing campfire. God certainly knows how to give good gifts to his children. But where is the line when it comes to enjoying all the pleasurable things our world affords? In *The Things of Earth*, professor Joe Rigney offers perplexed Christians a breath of fresh air by lifting the burden of false standards and impossible expectations related to the Christian life—freeing readers to gratefully embrace every good thing we receive from the hand of God. Helping us avoid our tendency to forget the Giver on the one hand and neglect his gifts on the other, this much-needed book reminds us that God's blessings should drive us to worship and that a passion for God's glory can be as wide as the world itself.

## God Can't

How can I approach God if I'm struggling to believe in His goodness? So much of our belief can be formulaic. We often think that if we do A, B, and C, then God will do X, Y, and Z. We check things off the "Good Christian Checklist," trusting we'll be okay, and our trials will be minimal. But when our experiences inevitably deviate from that belief, our trust in God often crumbles. After a series of life-altering trials—including a devastating diagnosis—uncovering faith in the cracks of pain is something Kristen LaValley knows well. In *Even If He Doesn't*, Kristen will: share her vulnerable and honest story, unpack the nuances of suffering and faith, holding space for the tension between the two, reveal how engaging the gentleness and grace of Christ in our suffering offers a surprising path to healing, remind us that when our belief is reduced to a formula, we rob ourselves of a faith that's enriched by suffering, not crippled by it. Those in the midst of heartache will find strength and renewal as Kristen approaches the complexity of suffering with compassion, guiding us to endure while not forsaking the joy, hope, and peace of those marked by Jesus.

## **God Is Just Not Fair**

We live in an age of scepticism. Our society places such faith in empirical reason, historical progress, and heartfelt emotion that it's easy to wonder: why should anyone believe in Christianity? What role can faith and religion play in our modern lives? In this thoughtful and inspiring book, pastor and New York Times bestselling author Timothy Keller invites sceptics to consider that Christianity is as relevant now as ever. As human beings, we cannot live without meaning, satisfaction, freedom, identity, justice and hope - and Christianity provides us with unsurpassed resources to meet all these needs. Written for both sceptic and believer, *Making Sense of God* shines a light on the profound value and importance of Christianity in our lives.

## **The Things of Earth**

A refreshing and inspirational account of the author's journey through the treacherous waters of uncertainty and the deep emotional wounds parents of a chronically ill child must endure.

## **I Forgive You, But...**

A compassionate, shame-free guide for your darkest days "A one-of-a-kind book . . . to read for yourself or give to a struggling friend or loved one without the fear that depression and suicidal thoughts will be minimized, medicalized or over-spiritualized."—Kay Warren, cofounder of Saddleback Church What happens when loving Jesus doesn't cure you of depression, anxiety, or suicidal thoughts? You might be crushed by shame over your mental illness, only to be told by well-meaning Christians to "choose joy" and "pray more." So you beg God to take away the pain, but nothing eases the ache inside. As darkness lingers and color drains from your world, you're left wondering if God has abandoned you. You just want a way out. But there's hope. In *I Love Jesus, But I Want to Die*, Sarah J. Robinson offers a healthy, practical, and shame-free guide for Christians struggling with mental illness. With unflinching honesty, Sarah shares her story of battling depression and fighting to stay alive despite toxic theology that made her afraid to seek help outside the church. Pairing her own story with scriptural insights, mental health research, and simple practices, Sarah helps you reconnect with the God who is present in our deepest anguish and discover that you are worth everything it takes to get better. Beautifully written and full of hard-won wisdom, *I Love Jesus, But I Want to Die* offers a path toward a rich, hope-filled life in Christ, even when healing doesn't look

like what you expect.

## **Making Sense of God**

It has never been more important to articulate the wonder and enchantment of the Christian message. Yet the traditional approaches of apologetics are often outmoded in an age of profound disenchantment and distraction, unable to meet this pressing need. This winsome apologetics book for a new generation makes the case that Christianity offers a compelling explanatory framework for making sense of our world. Pastor and writer Gavin Ortlund believes it is essential to appeal not only to the mind but also to the heart and the imagination as we articulate the beauty of the gospel. *Why God Makes Sense in a World That Doesn't* reimagines four classical theistic arguments--cosmological, teleological, moral, and Christological--making a cumulative case for God as the best framework for understanding the storied nature of reality. The book suggests that Christian theism can explain such things as the elegance of math, the beauty of music, and the value of love. It is suitable for use in classes yet accessibly written, making it a perfect resource for churches and small groups.

## **Hope Prevails Bible Study**

There are millions of religions on Earth, because of this you may find yourself wondering which one is right; what is the so-called \"right\" path to take and how do you even begin to find it if there is one? We live in a vast universe of possibilities with never ending choices, is it possible that there could be only one right way to enlightenment in this world? Even with the understanding of one God and one humanity how is it that there are so many different ideas of what the eternal plan for us all is that so many people believe was predestined since the beginning of time? Does God actually speak to anyone, or is the person who believes he or she hears God's voice special in some indescribable and unique way that allows some otherworldly divine voice to come through to those people alone as the rest of humanity sits in an unending clueless silence? Would a God that has an unchanging, unconditional and steadfast love for his creations truly order their annihilation and destruction, essentially sentencing his creations to an eternal torment simply because they refused to trust another man's word on the existence of God to begin with? Does God intervene in the lives of people simply because they pray to him, but then turn a deaf ear towards the countless starving children who silently die every single day? Does this all-powerful creator of the universe really need your money; or is this just man's corrupted way to prosper at the hands of hard working believers?

Finally, does God love all of creation or just the select few who somehow found the only one true path leading to him in the midst of all the wrong ones? If so, then why would he create anyone who would not eventually find the one true path in the first place? What is the point? Is this life nothing more than a test? These are just a few of the questions I want to address, but before we get into all of that I would like to share a little about my life so you get to know who I am and allow you to gain some insight into how this all began.

### **When Bad Things Happen to Good People**

How can I approach God if I'm struggling to believe in His goodness? So much of our belief can be formulaic. We often think that if we do A, B, and C, then God will do X, Y, and Z. We check things off the "Good Christian Checklist," trusting we'll be okay, and our trials will be minimal. But when our experiences inevitably deviate from that belief, our trust in God often crumbles. After a series of life-altering trials--including a devastating diagnosis--uncovering faith in the cracks of pain is something Kristen LaValley knows well. In *Even If He Doesn't*, Kristen will: share her vulnerable and honest story, unpack the nuances of suffering and faith, holding space for the tension between the two, reveal how engaging the gentleness and grace of Christ in our suffering offers a surprising path to healing, remind us that when our belief is reduced to a formula, we rob ourselves of a faith that's enriched by suffering, not crippled by it. Those in the midst of heartache will find strength and renewal as Kristen approaches the complexity of suffering with compassion, guiding us to endure while not forsaking the joy, hope, and peace of those marked by Jesus.

### **When Life Doesn't Make Sense: 90 Day Devotional**

Are you or is someone you love experiencing depression? This book offers tangible help, hope, and healing from someone who's been there and has come out the other side. In this Bible study companion to *Hope Prevails: Insights from a Doctor's Personal Journey through Depression*, Dr. Bengtson, a neuropsychologist with over 25 years of experience shares both her clinical expertise and her own personal journey through depression. Take this journey through the author's experience and Scripture to: Learn you are not alone. Depression is common and is not shameful. Discover chemical, genetic, secondary, reactionary, and spiritual contributors. Realize depression does not determine your worth, dictate our destiny, or separate us from the love of God. Fight back against the enemy's tactics that would steal your joy and peace. Dr. Bengtson's personal

experience is interwoven with questions for reflection, key thoughts, music playlist suggestions, resources, plus a leader's guide. \"Authentic connections, raw insights, and powerful truths. A great resource for individuals that would be highly beneficial to both church and counseling groups.: --Pastor Debbie Kitterman, Founder, Dare 2 Hear Ministry

### **It Don't Make Sense Not To Trust God**

Stranger Things meets Shadow and Bone in this first instalment of an epic and romantic YA fantasy series – perfect for fans of Leigh Bardugo, Sarah J. Maas and Victoria Aveyard. Now a TikTok phenomenon.

### **Why, God, Why?**

DIV Pastor Karen Jensen knows firsthand what it is like to experience personal tragedy. In this book she shares with readers that it's OK to ask why, but it's not OK to "camp out" there./div

### **When God Doesn't Make Sense**

With more than one million copies sold, When God Doesn't Make Sense is an immensely practical book for those who are struggling with trials and heartaches they can't understand. Why does disease, natural disaster, divorce, rejection, death, or some other sorrow seep into our lives when we are trying to serve the Lord? It just doesn't seem fair! This book deals unflinchingly with life's most troubling question—"Why?" Drawing on his long experience as a Christian psychologist and family counselor, Dr. Dobson brings hope to those who have almost given up. When God Doesn't Make Sense also helps believers avoid the "betrayal barrier"—the sense that God is abandoning them amid the storms of life. Now with a new foreword by R. T. Kendall.

### **When Life Doesn't Make Sense**

The Library of Baptist Classics communicates the timeless, bedrock truths of Southern Baptist heritage. Through books that both inform and inspire, this collection shows how the world is changed by people whose lives are guided by God. Included

are a variety of classic sermons, biographies, treatises and other writings by pastors, theologians, missionaries, and educators. Each volume features an introduction, discussion questions, and indexes. -- Introductions put the writing in context -- Discussion questions promote personal and group study -- Indices invite use as sermon illustrations or references

## **The Man God Uses**

Winner of a third-place award in the grief and bereavement category from the Catholic Media Association. A friend's child dies; a parent gets a cancer diagnosis; your spouse loses their job. Sometimes life and God's plan don't make sense and we end up feeling hurt and angry. In *Seriously, God?*, Fr. Michael White and Tom Corcoran explore the denial, doubt, and betrayal we experience when we face hardship, pain, and grief, and they encourage us to lean into our feelings and to take each circumstance as a chance to learn more about God. Drawing on personal anecdotes and stories from their parish, White and Corcoran—authors of the bestselling and award-winning book, *Rebuilt*—share important lessons, including: Even the heroes of the Bible—such as Abraham, Moses, David, and the apostles—experienced situations that caused them to misunderstand God. There is joy in knowing we will forever be getting to know God. Even though life often doesn't make sense, we shouldn't assume God doesn't make sense. For anyone who has battled suffering, walked away from faith under the pressure of crushing doubt, never felt safe giving faith a chance, or cared about someone who struggles with these realities, this book treats the problems of suffering and evil not as an argument to be overcome but as an invitation to a deeper faith. Each chapter relies on biblical stories that provide a wonderful introduction to scripture to those who are not familiar with the Bible and a fresh perspective to those who are. Each chapter also includes questions for self-reflection and discussion. A free parish small-group guide and videos from the authors are available online. This is a perfect book to give as a gift to friends or family members who are grieving, those struggling with doubts about their faith, or those who are new to faith.

## **Even If He Doesn't**

It doesn't take too much living before we realize that life never goes quite the way we want it to. But when things get hard and we don't understand what God is doing, what is our first impulse? Is it to resist him and run away like Jonah? Or is it to trust him even while trembling in fear of suffering like Habakkuk? In this powerful exploration of God's often mysterious and counterintuitive ways, Dr. Larry Crabb challenges readers to seize the opportunities for growth and maturity that come our way

when we experience troubles and failures. Rather than pushing back against adversity, he invites us to look closer at what God is doing in our lives when it feels like he is far from us. Unpacking the stories of two very different prophets, Crabb lights the way to a life of resting in the goodness of a God who is always working out his plan for our lives.

### **Emotions: Can You Trust Them?**

There were six knife-carrying bullies in our community during my teen years that kept us farm boys living in fear that they might engrave their initials on our skin. Until one day, my mouth overtook my brain, and I challenged them to clean up or clear out. What I thought was a deadly mistake turned out to be a blessing. I cleaned the plow of all six of these brothers by taking down their big cousin that I called Goliath. I became known as the giant killer, the one that cleaned the plow of seven all at one time all by myself. Our trials should be kept as treasures for strength for another day, another battle, as did David when facing Goliath. The clouds that appear in our lives are God's way of creating a dark background for grace to paint a new picture of our life. Contributing authors Mike and Vickie Oliver tell about their dark experience as parents of a prodigal, as their youngest daughter ran away from home with an illegal immigrant and was without news of her for seven months, until the master artist took the brush of grace and painted a picture of hope, and their nightmare of harrow turned into a blessing that would benefit many. Trials are not pleasant to our flesh or spirit; however, if we can glean and draw strength from them, somewhere in our future we can use them as arrows in our quiver to thwart the progress of defeat. I never imagined fifty-years later my experience as a teen would become a part of my book series, Goliath Awaits.

### **Why, God, Why?**

There is only one question which really matters: 'why do bad things happen to good people?' Out of a faith-shaking and senseless waste of a life comes this remarkable and caring book, which will help many. It has sensible and unorthodox and mind-opening things to say about God - and about ourselves. Its author has wisdom and no bitterness. We can learn from him, about acceptance and guilt and despair and the helplessness we all feel when 'none of it makes sense' when we say 'why them?' or worse 'why us?'. We owe him our thanks' David Kossoff 'Rabbi Kushner writes from a wealth of Jewish wisdom and pastoral devotion, but his theology is, I find, is wholly in keeping with contemporary Christian thought. So far as there is an answer to the conflict between the goodness of God and the bitterness of suffering, this is it' Gerald Priestland 'It will bring new

meaning, strength and hope to many' Dame Cicely Saunders, DBE, FRCP

## **When God Doesn't Make Sense**

Loneliness has reached epidemic proportions. We have lost the art of connection and relationship, and it's killing us. Odds are good that you have a loved one or friend whose struggle with addiction, mental illness, suicidal thoughts, or self-injury stems from loneliness. Maybe it's you. Perhaps you're feeling depressed or anxious, struggling with compulsive behavior, or simply questioning whether you are truly seen, loved, and valued. The culprit could well be that you're lonely. Dr. Mark Mayfield understands the crisis well, as it led to him nearly taking his own life as a teen. As a board-certified counselor, he has built a reputable counseling practice on the forefront of brain science and attachment therapies, dedicating his life to helping adults and adolescents confront their feelings of isolation and alienation. He is relied upon by new and experienced counselors for training, and he has become an anchor and guide for community leaders, educators, and faith leaders. When you read and apply the practices in *The Path out of Loneliness*, you'll develop habits that move you from isolation to connection. You'll learn the importance of attachment, the art of connection, the power of relationships, the priority of personal responsibility, the gift of vulnerability, and the vision of God, who knew from the beginning that it's not good for us to be abandoned to ourselves. This book will guide you, the people you love, and the community you live in toward a richer, fuller, healthier life.

## **When God's Ways Make No Sense**

Sometimes life just hurts. Out of nowhere, death, illness, unemployment, or a difficult relationship can change our lives and challenge everything we thought we knew—leaving us feeling unable to cope. But, in the midst of all this pain and confusion, we are not alone. Weaving together his personal story, pastoral ministry experience, and biblical insights, best-selling author Paul David Tripp helps us trust God in the midst of suffering. He identifies traps to avoid in our suffering and points us instead to comforts to embrace. This raw yet hope-filled book will help you cling to God's promises when trials come and move forward with the hope of the gospel.

## **Seriously, God?**

A supplement to the phenomenal best-seller! Discussion questions center around themes and Scripture in the book, further exploring Dobson's insights on human suffering and God's constant care.

### **This Morning with God**

Sometimes God leads us in ways that are unclear or confusing. The path we're expected to travel is obscure, incomplete, contrary to logic, filled with delays and detours, or the total opposite of what we've prayed for. His presence is all we have. And our nothing-but-God times teach us that God is all we need. *SAILING UNDER SEALED ORDERS* is a guide for trusting God through uncertain times and following His leading when it makes no sense from an earthly perspective. In a time when everyday life is scary, we need a guide to sail through uncharted waters. Only with supernatural strength can we face the journey without fear or worry and live in a state of mind and spirit called peace. Peace is possible in the middle of war, disease, and tragedy because peace is not the absence of trouble. It's the absence of struggle.

### **Even If He Doesn't**

*Forgiveness Is Always Difficult and Often Illogical. But It's the Only Remedy God Offers to Heal Our Hearts.* With the experience of more than two decades in the ministry, Dr. Robert Jeffress has come to the conclusion that forgiveness is the bottom-line issue of life. Failure to receive God's forgiveness results in eternal hell; failure to grant forgiveness to those who have hurt us results in a living hell. While most people - especially Christians - esteem the concept of forgiveness in theory, few have mastered what one person has called "the art of forgiveness." As C.S. Lewis once said, "Forgiveness is a beautiful word, until you have something to forgive." *When Forgiveness Doesn't Make Sense* is an intensely biblical yet extremely practical approach to this crucial issue. Dr. Jeffress deals with the major misunderstandings about forgiveness: believing you cannot forgive those who never ask for it, confusing forgiveness with forgetting or with reconciliation, and believing that forgiveness automatically erases the consequences of harmful actions. Dr. Jeffress explains the process of our forgiveness by God, as well as the power of our forgiveness of others. Readers will also learn questions to ask themselves before they seek forgiveness from another, essentials of an effective apology, reasons others may refuse to forgive them, action steps for dealing with painful memories, a check-list to determine whether they have genuinely forgiven another, and much more. Forgiveness is difficult and often illogical. But *When Forgiveness Doesn't Make Sense* will equip and encourage readers to

become more forgiving-and to experience God's forgiveness more deeply. At some time in our lives we will be hurt deeply by another person. It may be a family member who mistreats us, a business associate who cheats us, a child who rebels against us, a friend who betrays us, a mate who deserts us, or a God who disappoints us. While we can't control the hurts that come into our lives, we can choose what to do with those hurts. We can let them make us bitter, or we can release them through forgiveness. While forgiveness doesn't always seem to make sense, as Dr. Robert Jeffress explains in his important new book, it is the only way God has given us to effectively resolve the pain of our past. More importantly, it's the obligation of every Christian.

### **The Path Out of Loneliness**

"Why do bad things happen?" "God, I don't understand!" Heartbreak and loss happen to us all. On New Year's Day, at the age of thirty-seven, Karen Jensen's husband died suddenly in his bed, leaving her alone to raise two grieving boys and pastor a bewildered congregation. Despite her strong faith and love for God, she had some serious questions. Has tragedy shaken the foundation of your life? Have you been blindsided by an event you never expected to face? What should we do when we're going through the dark places in life? ...when we've lost everything? ...when we're in pain? ...when we're wondering why? With a mix of sharp insight and warm optimism, Karen skillfully combines experience and scripture to guide you through the land mines of doubt and confusion that come with loss. She then provides solid principles for moving forward past the pain and into a brighter future. Enhanced eBook contains video segments from the author that go deeper into each chapter.

### **Suffering**

Author Russell D. Ward delves into the reasons readers feel adrift from God and how Christians can create or renew a power-filled relationship with Him. Learn more at [www.promisedlandbook.com](http://www.promisedlandbook.com) Loss has brought change into your lap. You are looking for perspective. Perhaps you are asking God, what is the meaning of my pain? or Is there meaning in my pain? WLDMS 90 Day Devotional Book's approach will penetrate your heart and illuminate your journey. Each devotional entry is designed to stir prayerful thought and reflection as you travel through the Wilderness. When you return to the devotional book time and time again, you will have a better sense what has changed and how God has moved in your life. As you journey through the Wilderness, you learn to acquire different "tools" and put them in your spiritual toolbox. These tools are traits such

as courage, endurance, prayer, fasting, obedience, patience, etc. You will return often to the toolbox to make use of them. These traits are the heartbeat of the devotional book. Devotional Outline: Day 1 – 11 Why Are You Here? Day 12 – 25 Specific Purposes Present to Your Situation Day 26 – 55 Pushed to Change Day 56 – 77 Becoming a Courageous Person Day 78 – 90 God's Ways are Not Always Direct, But on Course Key questions or thoughts highlighted: How am I coping with this strange way of life? Initially, the path is filled with change, pain, and struggle. Don't allow loss to distract you from your relationship with God. God will bring your life to order. God knows what He's doing. He's allowing this event to happen for a reason. Remain committed to The Lord during this difficult season. As time unfolds, the focus lessons on the loss. God is bringing something fresh, full of hope. Am I allowing The Lord to order my steps? God's relentless love protects and directs you. The journey changed me on the inside. Do I have an unselfish concern for others? I will share the wonderful things God does. Being in the Wilderness can be overwhelming, as one grapples with dead ends, setbacks, detours and delays. God DOES have a plan of escape. Moses, Joshua, David, Job, Jesus and Paul were not exempt from experiencing a Desert time in their life – and they would call themselves blessed that they did! The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you—and more [besides] will be given to you who hear. (Mark 4:24b AMPC).

### **When God Doesn't Make Sense**

God so desires that we know and love Him. His desire has always been and will always be that we know and recognize and walk with Him in every day life, practically engaging with Him and enjoying life supernaturally natural. As we grow to know our heavenly Father this way, communicating and communing with Him the same way that Jesus did, our lives take on new meaning, and that is, to know and understand many of the things we did not understand about our Father or ourselves before. When God Doesn't Make Sense provides a look into God's heart from a practical point of view, and in seeing His heart and knowing it for us, we begin to see without condemnation what is in our hearts. As we see ourselves the way God does, obstacles are moved from our paths and we are made emotionally stable and strong through our intimacy with Him.

### **When God Doesn't Fix It**

How do I find meaning and purpose in life? Most of us face this question sooner or later, no matter how popular, rich, or

successful we might be. Money can't buy meaning in life. Education can't teach it to you. Possessions don't come with it. You can't find it by getting married, nor by staying single. Losing weight doesn't help, nor does meditation. Religion won't fix the problem, nor will committing suicide. But life isn't hopeless or meaningless. You can find answers. Welcome to the book of Ecclesiastes. Solomon was one of the few people in history who had the resources to try out everything that life offers. He had money. He had power. He had possessions. He had knowledge and wisdom. He had women. He had his own private musicians. He even tried worshiping idols. If he wanted something, he bought it or got it some other way. But he didn't have meaning or purpose in life, and he wanted it. He wanted it badly. The book of Ecclesiastes is Solomon's diary of the process he went through to try to find meaning in life. You will be surprised at what he all tried and what didn't work. And you may be surprised at his conclusion.

### **When God Doesn't Make Sense**

We all want answers to questions when things are going wrong. We want a closure, and a conclusion to life's puzzling situations. We all have asked this question, God where are you when I need You. In this book, I encourage the readers and show them that even at their lowest times, God was silently there. Lets trace him together.

### **The New Dare to Discipline**

\"This is a book I'll be recommending for years to come.\" -- Lysa TerKeurst, New York Times bestselling author Do you believe God is just not fair? If you're like Jennifer Rothschild, you wrestle with questions when you experience painful circumstances. Does God care? Does he hear my prayers? Is he even there? Blinded as a teenager, Jennifer overcame daunting obstacles, found strength in God, and launched a successful speaking and writing ministry. Then in her 40s, everything changed. Jennifer hit a wall of depression and discontent that shook her to her core, undermining many of her past assumptions about her faith. She wondered who God was and why he continued to allow her to struggle and doubt. Where, she pleaded, is his hand of healing and hope in my life now? This is a book about finding more than just answers. It's for anyone who needs hope when life doesn't make sense--for all who reach for a God who feels distant. As Jennifer tackles the six big questions of faith, she will help you: Trust God more than your feelings. Strengthen your faith when you feel beat up by life. Embrace your obstacles and start experiencing their purpose. Face your disappointment and grow stronger from your

loss.

## **Why God Makes Sense in a World That Doesn't**

Dr. James Dobson provides practical guidelines and simple steps to help anyone understand their emotions so that they can improve interaction with others. Love, anger and guilt are emotions that can be a very positive force in our lives if we learn to recognize and cope with these aspects of who we are. The sound teaching of this book will help dispel the myths surrounding the way we think about our emotions and will separate distorted thinking from the real thing—for instance, distinguishing between infatuation and true love. Learn how to interpret and understand a broad range of emotions and separate fantasy from reality.

## **The Caleb Years: ... When God Doesn't Make Sense**

Have you ever been hurt, betrayed, used or done wrong? At some point in life, we all experience wounds from others. But, staying hurt is not okay. When we refuse to let go of the hurt, it turns to unforgiveness and unforgiveness is like drinking poison and expecting the other guy to die. It eats our lunch. This book is all about HOW to forgive, how to dig into the Bible when you've been hurt and let the Word set you free. Forgiveness is how God does do-overs and it's how He makes things new and gives us a fresh start. You and I were made new because He forgave us. Forgiveness is the key to cut the chain to our past hurts and to walk away free. This book shows the power of forgiveness and includes miracle stories about people who thought that forgiveness wasn't the answer to their problems, but when they learned to forgive, their lives were transformed!

## **God Makes Sense the Bible Doesn't**

What do you do when all of a sudden there has been an interruption in life that causes life-altering shift to occur? In those moments that we can find solace in seeking the face of God.

### Goliath Awaits

Hurting people ask heart-felt questions about God and suffering. Some \"answers\" they receive appeal to mystery: \"God's ways are not our ways\". Some answers say God allows evil for a greater purpose. Some say evil is God's punishment. The usual answers fail. They don't support the truth that God loves everyone all the time. God Can't gives a believable answer to why a good and powerful God doesn't prevent evil. Author Thomas Jay Oord says God's love is inherently uncontrolling. God loves everyone and everything, so God can't control anyone or anything. This means God cannot prevent evil singlehandedly. God can't stop evildoers, whether human, animal, organism, or inanimate objects and forces. In God Can't, Oord gives a plausible reason why some are healed, but many others are not. God always works to heal everyone, but sometimes our bodies, organisms, or other creatures do not cooperate with God's healing work. Or the conditions of creation are not right for the healing God wants to do. Some people think God causes or allows suffering to teach us lessons or build our character. God Can't disagrees. Oord says God squeezes good from the evil God didn't want in the first place. God uses pain and suffering without willing or even allowing it. Most people think God can overcome evil singlehandedly. In God Can't, Oord says God needs cooperation for love to reign now and later. This leads to a better view of the afterlife called \"relentless love.\" It rejects traditional ideas of heaven, hell, and annihilation. Relentless love holds to the possibility all creatures and all creation will respond to God's love. God Can't is written in understandable language. As a world-renown theologian, Thomas Jay Oord brings credibility to the book's radical ideas. He explains these ideas through true stories, illustrations, and scripture. God Can't is for those who want answers to tragedy, abuse, and other evils that make sense! What They're Saying... \"If conventional notions of God make less and less sense to you, you'll find Thomas Jay Oord's new book a breath of fresh air. Simply put, \"God Can't\" presents an understanding of God that thoughtful, ethical people can believe in.\" -- Brian D. McLaren, author of The Great Spiritual Migration \"I did not want this book to end. I wish Dr. Oord had written it 100 years ago, or 1000 years ago... To find your understanding of life and your love for God renewed, read this book.\" -- Dr. Karen Strand Winslow, Ph.D., Biblical and Jewish Studies Professor of Bible, Azusa Pacific University \"As a clinical psychologist working with people in trauma, I owe Thomas Jay Oord an enormous debt of gratitude for recasting the so-called problem of evil in terms that are conceptually satisfying, theologically consistent, and pastorally liberating.\" -- Dr Roger Bretherton- Principal Lecturer at the University of Lincoln (UK), Chair of the British Association of Christians in Psychology \"Victims of trauma sometimes hear theological responses that imply their suffering is somehow \"God's will.\" A more careful theological reflection on the nature of the power of a God who is love can help. Oord gives us a clear and compelling alternative in this profoundly insightful and admirably concrete and accessible book.\" -- Dr. Anna Case-Winters, Professor of Theology at McCormick Theological

Seminary "I know of no book that speaks to suffering with the depth of theological sophistication and psychological sensitivity as God Can't. This book is a rare combination of depth and accessibility, truly written for the wounded. I recommend it to my students, parishioners, and therapy clients." -- Dr. Brad D. Strawn, Professor of the Integration of Psychology and Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary

## **I Love Jesus, But I Want to Die**

Originally published: Fresh grounded faith. c2008.

## **Payday Someday**

Shatter Me (Shatter Me)

## **When Forgiveness Doesn't Make Sense**

In this book, beloved speaker Fr. Mike Schmitz unfolds the mystery of brokenness. He reminds us that we have been fought for by a God who wants us as we are, not as we should be or hope to be. The Lord's will for us is to find our identity in him and to thrive, living the life he has given us.

## **Where is GOD when Life Doesn't Make Sense.**

Is it possible that good things can come out of our broken dreams? Worship leader and recording artist Laura Story's life took an unexpected turn when her husband, Martin, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Their lives would never be the same. Yes, with God all things are possible. But the devastating news was that no cure existed to restore Martin's short-term memory, eyesight, and other complications. The fairy-tale life Laura had dreamed of was no longer possible. And yet in struggling with God about how to live with broken dreams, Laura has found joy and a deeper intimacy with Jesus. In When God Doesn't Fix It, Laura helps you understand that: We aren't the only ones whose lives have taken unexpected turns Even heroes of our faith experienced brokenness Despite our flaws and stories, God can use us in extraordinary ways God may not fix everything. In

fact, although your situation might not ever change or get better, with Jesus you can. Not because of your faith, but because of the faithfulness of God.

### When God Doesn't Make Sense

Much-needed answers to your toughest parenting questions! Why are boundaries so important? Do children really want limits set on their behavior? My spouse doesn't seem to care about discipline; why I am I stuck being the "bad guy?" Is it okay to spank my child, or will it lead him to hit others and become a violent person? Join the millions of caring parents who have found answers in the wisdom of parenting authority and family counselor Dr. James Dobson. The New Dare to Discipline is a revised and updated edition of the classic bestseller, designed to help you lead your children through the tough job of growing up. This practical, reassuring guide will teach you how to meet your children's needs of love, trust, affection—and discipline. (This new edition is part of Dr. James Dobson's Building A Family Legacy initiative.)

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