

HOW TO LIVE THROUGH A BAD DAY

The Liberating Step

John 19:30

When Jesus had tasted it, he said, *"It is finished!"* (John 19:30, NLT)

The **Liberating Step**: Be assured that there is a **purpose** to your problems and there is an **end** to your pain.

Why?

When all we **can** see is our bad day, then all we **will** see is our bad day.

From the four winds and the seven seas we hear the singing: "All praise to the Righteous One!" But I said, "That's all well and good for somebody, but **all I can see** is doom, doom, and more doom." (Isaiah 24:16, The Message)

It takes a **perspective** bigger than your problems and greater than your pain to free you from your **bad day blindness**.

How?

Job's Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

"I call to you, O God, but **you never answer**; and when I pray, **you pay no attention**." (Job 30:20, GNB)

Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said: "Who is this that darkens my counsel with **words without knowledge**? Brace yourself like a man; **I will question you**, and you shall answer me. Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? **Surely you know!**"

(Job 38:1–5, NIV)

"Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the **earth**? Tell me, if you know all this. "What is the way to the abode of **light**? And where does **darkness** reside? Can you take them to their places? Do you know the paths to their dwellings? Surely you know, for you were already born! **You have lived so many years!** (Job 38:18–21, NIV)

Then Job answered the LORD: "I am **unworthy**—how can I reply to you? I put my hand over my mouth."

(Job 40:3–4, NIV)

(1) Fix my eyes on our God who is **all powerful** and be assured God has a **plan** for me.

Then Job replied to the LORD: "I know that you **can do all things**; no **purpose** of yours can be thwarted."

(Job 42:2, NIV)

For I know the **plans** I have for you," declares the LORD, "**plans to bless** you and not to harm you, **plans to give you hope and a future**." (Jeremiah 29:11, RHV)

I would rather have hope and all-powerful God; then certainty in a limited me.

(2) Fix my eyes on our God who is **all-knowing** and be assured God wants what's **best** for me.

You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my plans without **knowledge**?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, **things too wonderful for me to know...**" (Job 42:3, NIV)

He **knows** about everyone, everywhere. Everything about us is bare and wide open to the all-seeing eyes of our living God; nothing can be hidden from him. (Hebrews 4:13, TLB)

I need never fear to trust an all-knowing God with my unknown future.

(3) Fix my eyes on our God who is **all present** and be assured God **embraces** me.

My ears had heard of you but **now my eyes have seen you**. (Job 42:5, NIV)

God has said, "**Never** will I leave you; **never** will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" (Hebrews 13:5–6, NIV)

When I know God is with me, I can face whatever is against me!