

TIMES SQUARE CHURCH

01 A New Way to Look at My Pain
by Pastor Tim Dilena

02 Zambia Water Project
by TSC Missions

03 212 Ministry Testimony
by 212 High School Director, Geo

04 Summit Celebrates 30
Years of Transformation



A New Way to Look at My Pain

01
Pastor Tim Dilena

One of my favorite preachers of the 19th century is a man named Joseph Parker. His reminder to ministers is very stirring. "Speak to the suffering, and you will never lack an audience. There are suffering people in every church. There is a broken heart in every crowd. There is pain in the pew and in the pulpit. That's why comfort in discomfoting times is a high commodity. We all want it and we all need it. What your comfort looks like may surprise you. It's not coming from a professional counselor equipped with a PHD on human behavior. Your comfort is the person who has been to hell and back, still smells like smoke with a smile on their face. One minister said it this way, 'If you are looking for somebody who can give you wisdom, may I recommend to you that you look for someone who has been hurt deeply, whose faith has remained unshaken.'"

The apostle Paul gives us a new way to look at the painful seasons in our lives. He tells you that there is purpose in your pain. And when not viewed correctly, you risk wasting your pain. Paul answers one of the many "why" questions that gets asked in painful moments. Though the answer is not all encompassing, it will give clarity to the question, "Why did I have to go through that hard time?" and "Why would God make me suffer that way?" Buckle up, it's a new way to look at pain.

"All praise to the God and Father of our Master, Jesus the Messiah! Father of all mercy! God of all healing counsel! He comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, he brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times so that we can be there for that person just as God was there for us" (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, MSG).

**“ Pain redeemed
is better than pain
removed. ”**

Paul's second letter to the Corinthian church has always held a special place in my heart. Paul seems to show amazing vulnerability, almost to the point of raw honesty. I don't think Paul is writing some theological thesis, I think Paul is writing from experience. Paul realizes what is on the other side of his pain. Paul is realizing who is on the other side of his pain. 18th Century pastor JH Jowett said, "God does not comfort us to make us comfortable; but to make us comforters." Paul is snapping us out of a selfish way to look at difficulty. If you look beyond your pain, you see ministry.

As we were approaching Christmas, I got a call that I knew was coming. My 101-year-old mother passed away. I expected it but it still stung. My father died in 2000 and my mom 23 years later. Having now lost both of my parents, I felt like an orphan. Both my parents are gone. There has been a few difficult moments in my life when my father would say to me, "Why don't you just come home." I am now unable to hear him speak or have a home to go to. I have become an orphan. I am now parentless.

As I was fixated on that thought, something started to happen over the next five weeks. Friends from around the country started having their fathers and mothers pass away. Some five stories were brought to my attention. And it was Paul's admonition and instruction that snapped me out of my orphan mindset and set me on a path to bring comfort to others that are feeling the pain of their loss. I needed to look beyond my loss and realize I suffered first to help those who are suffering now.

The apostle Paul said, "He comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, he brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times so that we can be there for that person just as God was there for us." I am comforted to be a comforter. My pain is not meant for me to cop an attitude

and say, "You don't know what I'm going through." My pain is for me to say, "I know what you are going through let me help you." That is biblical. You have been comforted to be a comforter. You have gone through it to help someone else get through it. When you don't use your pain to comfort, you will never turn pain to wisdom.

It's a new way to look at your pain. It snaps us out of extended sorrow and grief. There are people that are still feeling the pain and the sting of a bad past because you have kept silent about your pain. One of the things that God has ordained is for you are to talk about your affliction and how you found comfort. When you hear someone's tough story. Something in you will speak, "I know that story. I experienced that story." It's at that very moment that you are to bring comfort to that person.

Paul's words answers the question "Why did I have to go through that?" Has it ever crossed your mind why are things so hard? Now you know. God is not punishing me, God is equipping me to help get others through it. I don't know who said it but I concur with these words, "Pain redeemed is better than pain removed." You redeem the pain when you comfort people.

Zambia Water Project

02
TSC Missions

Thanks to your continued generosity, we are partnering with Overland Mission to help people living in remote villages in Zambia with a critical resource—clean water.

While many governments and NGO's have constructed water wells in villages around the world without access to clean water, these wells can break down. Sadly, the organizations that construct the wells rarely come back and service them. The wells then become dormant. The local people need assistance in repairing them and are not equipped with the tools or the understanding to repair the wells. Benjamin, a young mechanical engineer and Overland Missions team member, discovered this problem when he was on a trip to Zambia.

Benjamin's role as a missionary is to visit these villages yearly and repair the broken wells. He teaches the local people sustainable maintenance practices so they can repair the wells themselves. He uses his time with the people to demonstrate God's love and tell them that all who put their trust in God will be like trees planted by the river—untouched by drought or heat. Thanks for Benjamin and your generosity, many communities in Zambia are able to maintain their physical water source and receive the living spiritual water that Jesus Christ offers.

Giving to the Lord is a tremendous investment opportunity. We are grateful to all of you for providing Times Square Church with the necessary resources to partner with missionaries that serve communities around the world.



212 Ministry Testimony

One Friday night, a young volunteer attended a 212 ministry service and heard a powerful message of healing. Inspired, he resolved to believe for his aunt. She was recently burdened with a daunting diagnosis: brain cancer. Doctors discovered a tumor in her head. The following Saturday, fueled by faith, he penned a heartfelt plea to the Lord, pouring his hopes into his journal.

Coincidentally, that same Saturday held a crucial moment for his aunt—a scheduled check-up to discuss the upcoming chemo treatment and surgery. As the hours unfolded, anticipation hung in the air. Later that afternoon, she underwent the medical examination, and the young volunteer's prayers echoed in the background.

The transformative news arrived that evening, delivered through a phone call that resonated with joy and disbelief. The doctors, in their meticulous examination, failed to locate the once ominous tumor. In a miraculous turn of events, his aunt was declared cancer-free. The young volunteer, overwhelmed with gratitude and awe, stood witness to the profound impact of faith and the healing power that had manifested in his aunt's life.

This incredible story serves as a testament to the profound connection between faith, hope, and healing. The young volunteer's

unwavering belief, kindled during that Friday night service, became a catalyst for a miraculous transformation in his aunt's health. In the realm of the 212 ministry, this story re-echoes as a powerful reminder of the extraordinary possibilities that can unfold when we fix our eyes on the one who loves us dearly.



STAY CONNECTED AT TIMES SQUARE CHURCH

To share this newsletter
with a friend or to find out
about TSC Connect Groups visit

tsc.nyc

CHANGE THE WORLD WITH US!

Ways to Give



1. **TEXT**
"givetscnyc" to 77977
2. **ONLINE**
at tsc.nyc/give
3. **MAIL**
check or money order to
Times Square Church
Attn: Finance
1657 Broadway, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10019

Summit Celebrates 30 Years of Transformation



In 1994 David Wilkerson, founder of Times Square Church, established TSC's Bible school with the vision of empowering and equipping individuals for effective ministry. Today, we celebrate the fruits of what was planted 30 years ago as Summit continues to grow, evolve, and impact people around the world.

Three decades on, Summit remains a lighthouse for truth in a society built on ever-changing ideologies. We are not called to be mirrors that reflect the culture around us, but to be lit from within with the love of Jesus and the truth of our identity in Christ.

As we enter our 30th year, we are excited to introduce more online enrichment courses to expand our gap year and sabbatical programs, and continue to cultivate Summit's core two-year program, which remains the heart of the Summit experience.

This year will be marked with celebration, as we continue to reflect on the faithfulness of God and look forward to all that He has in store for our future. While many institutions find themselves choosing between compromise or closing their doors, God has faithfully sustained us, reminding us that we have been called for such a time as this.

We invite you to celebrate with us, in person, to two of our upcoming events:

Summit's Annual Revival Services—February 21–23

Summit Youth Conference—April 5–6

In this milestone year, we would love it if you would save these dates and come celebrate with us! Let's pass the lit torch to this next generation. The world needs them, and you and I have been called to raise them up.



BE READY FOR LIFE'S UNKNOWNNS

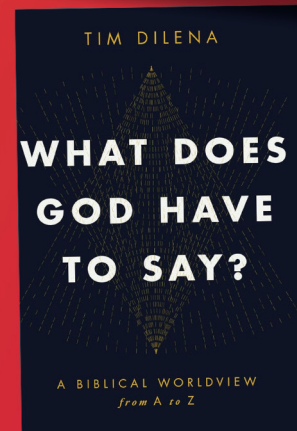
Understand the Word

**Connect the
Bible to everyday
challenges.**



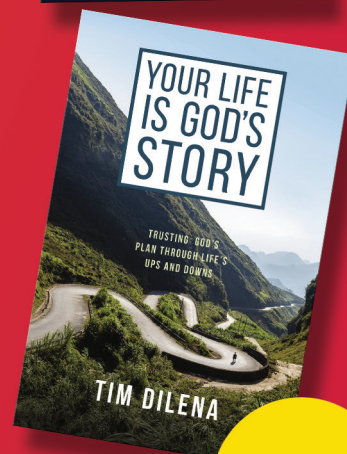
Stand Firm

**Learn God's
principles to
hold steady in an
unstable world.**



Trust God's Plan

**See how God led
others through
life's ups and
downs.**



**COMING
MAY 5**

Ready for Change?

Order now @ tsc.nyc