

*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]* John 16:33 AMPC

*You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their purpose firm and put their trust in you.* Isaiah 26:3 GNT

*Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.* 1 Peter 4:12-13 MSG

#### **God uses problems to . . .**

- Direct me.

*A person may plan his own journey, but the LORD directs his steps.* Proverbs 16:9 GW

*Sometimes it takes a painful experience to change your ways.* Proverbs 20:30 GNT

*I am glad . . . not because it hurt you but because the pain turned you to God.* 2 Corinthians 7:9a TLB

- Inspect me.

*The Lord searches our hearts and examines our deepest motives so he can give to each person his right reward, according to his deeds—how he has lived.* Jeremiah 17:10 TLB

*God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.* Deuteronomy 8:2 NIV

- Correct me.

*The Lord corrects the people he loves and disciplines those he calls his own.* Hebrews 12:6

*God corrects all of His children, and if He doesn't correct you, then you don't really belong to Him . . . God corrects us for our own good, because He wants us to be holy, as He is.* Hebrews 12:8-10 CEV

*It was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to your laws.* Psalm 119:71-72 TLB

- Protect me.

*The LORD says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue and honor them.* Psalm 91:14-15 NLT

*You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good.* Genesis 50:20 NIV

*Since the Lord is directing our steps, why try to understand everything that happens along the way?* Proverbs 20:24 TLB

- Perfect me.

*After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who calls you to share His eternal glory in union with Christ, will Himself perfect you and give you firmness, strength, and a sure foundation.* 1 Peter 5:10 TEV

*We can rejoice when we run into problems and trials, for they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady.* Romans 5:3-4 TLB

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.* Proverbs 3:5-6

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