



## Life's Challenges

There is not a single person among us that had not gone through a past not swamped with challenges. Many had been crippled by their past episodes and some are still trying desperately to get away from such an emotional imprisonment.

We have to admit that without life's challenges we would have not experienced total liberation from pain and suffering. We would have not known how to mentor others in their pain. We would have not been able to witness the work of a loving GOD who continually saves and gives us another chance in life. We would have not learned how to cope and hope.

I believe that GOD allows hardships as a period of awakening and truth – to remind us that the LORD went through it all and was victorious. Each one of us has faced the truth that there is a powerful force above all who makes everything takes place and puts them all in order.

Challenges bring awakening to accept GOD's existence where we acknowledge and embrace His providence and omnipotence. Our LORD JESUS' sufferings help us to understand that we, too, can overcome pain and trials. The pages of the Holy Bible tell us of our LORD's walk on earth, His tribulations and victories. Moses' encounter with the pharaoh of Egypt, Joseph's plight in a strange land, and Daniel's faith in a country where to pray to GOD was forbidden are all inspiring stories that tell us of the challenges they went through and how in the end GOD made them rise above their trials. Without GOD on their side, they would have not survived.

The hurting past is part of our lives and though it can sometimes bring suffering, it offers as well lessons of hope and renewed faith. It teaches us to learn to pray more and ask forgiveness for our sins. Most importantly, it teaches us how to seek GOD's intervention and to totally trust our lives to Him. The hurt also teaches us perseverance, forgiveness and hope.

### **Prayer:**

Dear LORD, experiencing the trials in life brings us strength. The sufferings we go through can never equal to the sacrifices You received. Knowing Your death and resurrection brings us the truth that as long as we walk on righteousness' path and for the purpose for which You have created us, our sufferings can never trample our existence. As long as our trust is in You, we will persevere. Our trials will become our stepping stones to freedom.