WHEN TIMES GET TOUGH

He **Leadeth** Me – Part 2 Vernon Zook September 1, 2019

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4 (NIV)

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)

There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death **Proverbs 14:12** (NLT)

Sometimes God leads me <u>INTO</u> a tough situation, and sometimes God leads me <u>THROUGH</u> a tough situation.

God allows difficulty in my life...

1. ... To help me learn to trust Him more.

<u>Trust in the LORD with all your heart</u>; do not depend on your <u>own</u> <u>understanding</u>. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. **Proverbs 3:5-6** (NLT)

If the place that I'm at in life feels like the wrong place, yet I'm following God with all heart, it just may be exactly where I'm supposed to be!

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Romans 8:28 (NLT)

2. ... To remove the <u>rough edges</u>.

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, <u>consider it an opportunity for great joy</u>. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

James 1:2-4 (NLT)

3. ... To prepare you for your future ministry.

He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

2 Corinthians 1:4 (NLT)

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for <u>I will yet praise him</u>, my Savior and my God.

Psalm 42:5 (NIV)