



# TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

**I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us...And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.**

*Romans 8:18,28*

## Groaning for Glory

He was a seventeen-year-old with big dreams. But no one in his family believed that they would ever come true. It seemed that they would be right when he was victim of human trafficking and taken to a foreign country. But, for this young man, things did get better. But then they got worse again when he was falsely charged with attempted rape and thrown in prison. So much for his dreams!

Did you figure out who that was? That was Joseph's story from the book of Genesis. Joseph had some difficult moments in his life from age 17 to 30. Can you relate? You probably don't have the same problems that Joseph did, but do you find life as a teenager to be difficult? There is a lot of pressure to do well in school, to fit in with friends, and to achieve dreams for the future. It can be overwhelming. And things don't always go the way that you have in mind.

But that's okay. Romans 8 reminds us that our present sufferings and struggles aren't worth comparing with the future glory in heaven that God has in store for us. We also know someone else who gives our hearts peace. Our God. Our God is always at work for our good. Joseph's life is a good example of this. Even when things were difficult for Joseph we find out, "The Lord was with Joseph" (Genesis 39:2,23). Even when things are difficult for you, the Lord is with you too. He's with you, and he is at work for your eternal good!

Do you remember how Joseph's story turned out? Eventually God raised him up to become second in command over all of Egypt. God used him to save many lives during a terrible famine. God has big plans for you too! He has big plans to use your talents in this life to be a blessing to others and to give glory to him. But best of all because of all that Jesus has done for you, God also has plans to spend eternal life with you.

### Prayer:

**Heavenly Father, when I'm faced with hardships and sufferings, comfort me with your presence. Assure me that you are at work for my good and keep my eyes fixed on the glory that awaits me in heaven because of Jesus. In his name I pray. Amen.**