

## 10/16 | DUMB THINGS SMART CHRISTIANS

**BELIEVE:** *"Everything happens for a reason."*



*"The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance"*

—2 Peter 3:9, NASB

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How much do you plan the details of your week? How do you react when the plans go different?
2. Is the idea that *"Everything happens for a reason"* comforting to you? Why or why not?
3. How does the idea that "God can use anything for redemption" show God's sovereignty and glory to you?
4. Why is it so detrimental to believe that God is controlling everyone and everything?
5. What could be some differences between God's *will* and God's *plan*?
6. In Jeremiah 29:11, the word *"plans"* is from the Hebrew word *"machashabah,"* which is translated as "thought or plan or invention." Does it seem like God would force your life to conform to these plans?

Thoughts on this quote?  
*"A God less than sovereign  
could not bestow moral  
freedom upon His creatures. He  
would be afraid to do so."*  
—AW Tozer

7. Isaiah 55:8-11 uses the same Hebrew word for “*thoughts*.” At first glance, this passage supports the idea that God makes things happen and does them for a purpose. However, the LORD says, “My word.” Why is that distinction important?
8. What are some examples of people in the Bible who dealt with difficult circumstances that God turned to good? (i.e. Joseph in Gen 50:20)
9. Reflect on these words of Romans 8:28...
- “... God CAUSES                      Greek *synergeo* means “to work together, help in work, be partner in labor, to put forth power together with and thereby to assist”
- ... who are CALLED                      Greek *kletos* means “called, invited (to a banquet)” or “divinely selected and appointed”
- ... to His PURPOSE.”                      Greek *prothesis* means “a setting forth of a thing, placing of it in view, the showbread, a purpose”

## **TAKE AWAY:**

Memorize Romans 8:28