



LINKS DAILY DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY | FEBRUARY 7TH, 2025

Links Players

An Evening with Three PGA Tour Standouts Trusting God in the Tough Seasons of Life.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. (Psalm 42:11, ESV)

Wesley Bryan is well-known in golf for several things: 1) He won multiple times on the Korn Ferry Tour; he also had a T4, T4, and T7 before winning the RBC Heritage in 2017; and 2) He and his brother, George, have a YouTube channel, Bryan Bros Golf, that has enjoyed over 75 million views.

But many might not know, “The world ain’t always sunshine and rainbows” for Wesley. In 2019, he went under the knife to repair a torn labrum in his left shoulder. Another setback occurred in 2021 when he had wrist surgery to repair a tendon.

It is common to hear followers of Christ talk about “mountain-top experiences,” those seasons of life when the Spirit of Christ seems near and everything is going gangbusters. We also hear about the seasons of life, usually described as “valleys,” when everything seems designed to wreak havoc on our lives.

Some psalms in the Psalter depict David crying out from deep within, appealing to Yahweh for the strength to endure or overcome the challenging seasons of life and the dark forces of evil. This is why the Puritans referred to the Psalter as “the soul’s medicine chest.”

It is relatively easy to say, “God is Sovereign and oversees every detail of my life.” However, it becomes more complicated when the unrelenting, gale-force winds of adversity batter us seemingly without mercy.

Given the right audience of trusted family or friends, we can all share the stories of “the dark night of the soul.” But the question remains: How does anyone resurface from the raging battles of life better, stronger, and more resolute to trust that “...for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28, ESV). All things? Really?

Friedrich Nietzsche coined the now-famous phrase, “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger.” He likely meant something like, “When viewed in the right light and committed to staying strong in the face of adversity, one will come out stronger.”

Countless life stories mock that sentiment. Life can and will throw things at us that can break even the most determined, including Nietzsche.

Motivational quotes can help many in the short term, but when the tsunamis of hell crash against us, we need the One who made the winds and rains to join us in our boat, calm the storm, or give us the strength to endure.

We may never understand the “why” of our pain in this life, but our Maker and Redeemer promises that we will once we are on the other side of the veil. That’s biblical hope that never disappoints.

Prayer: Jesus! Breathe on us that we might gain strength to face the battles of life.

READING: Psalm 42; Psalm 43.

1. A close friend once shot 30 on the front nine at Pebble, only to “get the sh__ks” on the back nine, shooting 42 coming home. How would you handle that during and after the round?

2. After reading Psalms 42 and 43, ask and answer, “What are some of the things the Psalmist did to find strength in tough times?”

3. It would be odd if your group lacked someone or multiple ones who aren’t going through a tough season. Stop and see if that is the case. If so, encourage and pray for them.
