

Hey Tony,

So this has been me for the past 13 months. How do I unite my illness to God's will. It's something we can only understand partially, but it is enough to get us through. Here are some of my thoughts:

1. God does not desire us to suffer.

God wants what is best for us. He wants to shower us with his love every second of our lives. But there is evil that gets in the way of that. But evil only gets in the way, it doesn't end God's love nor does it lessen God's power. It's merely a road block we need to overcome.

2. God needs the sick

"When I was thirsty you gave me a drink, when I was hungry you gave me something to eat, when I was naked you gave me something to wear. And when I was sick you visited me."

I know I paraphrased this passage but the message still works out. God needs people who are sick, just as much as he needs those who are poor and lonely. It gives us an opportunity to love them and a chance for God's glory to shine through.

3. So that His power can be seen

When God allows suffering (remember allows it, not creates it) he does not abandon us. In fact he is closer than ever. It is hard amongst the pain and suffering to know that. That is where faith comes in. That is where we need to turn to God in prayer and ask Him to help us get through the sickness (or whatever obstacle is before us). Because we are mere mortals we can only see a small portion of what God is planning to do with our sickness. But He, who knows everything, sees how sickness and suffering can be used to show His glory.

What helps me a lot when I am trying to unite my sickness to the will of God is I keep repeating 'thy will be done,' or 'Jesus I trust in you' over and over again as I am dealing with whatever it is. I also ask for the intercession of Mary and the saints by asking them to pray for me and see them as an example of how to be obedient to the will of God.

And those are my thoughts.

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