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When God Doesn't Fix It: Lessons You Never Wanted To Learn, Truths You Can't Live Without



Synopsis

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT GOOD THINGS CAN COME OUT OF OUR BROKEN DREAMS? Worship leader and recording artist Laura Story's life took an unexpected turn when her husband, Martin, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Their lives would never be the same. Yes, with God all things are possible. But the devastating news was that no cure existed to restore Martin's short-term memory, eyesight, and other complications. The fairy-tale life Laura had dreamed of was no longer possible. And yet in struggling with God about how to live with broken dreams, Laura has found joy and a deeper intimacy with Jesus. Laura helps us understand we aren't the only ones whose lives have taken unexpected turns. She examines the brokenness of some of the heroes of our faith, and shows how despite their flaws and flawed stories, God was able to use them in extraordinary ways. And it was not because of their faith, but because of the faithfulness of their God. God may not fix everything. In fact, although your situation might not ever change or get better, with Jesus you can.

"Our family has been ministered to by her vulnerability and willingness to walk in the valley and still say 'God, I Trust You.'"

STEVEN CURTIS and MARY BETH CHAPMAN Grammy Award-Winning Artist and New York Times Bestselling Author

"Laura is one of my heroes when it comes to trusting God. She's joyful, genuine, and faithful even though her story includes messy chapters. This book will be on my nightstand for a long time!"

LISA HARPER Author and Bible Teacher

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Customer Reviews

I sat down to read and read almost cover to cover in one sitting. It was that good. I will admit up front, I think everything Laura Story does is "so cool", and read the book mostly because she wrote it. I wanted the subject matter, but I would read a cereal box if Laura had a quote on it. ;) But this isn't just me with my "hero worship" glasses I am tempted to wear. This book is REALLY good! And, I think a big reason is because we ALL have brokenness. We all have things we wish God would "just fix". We all have things that would be easier to not share or be vulnerable about. And Laura is really honest and open about that. She shares her personal story in a really raw, open, honest, and sometimes hilarious way. ;) but interwoven throughout her story is universal truth. Not platitude. Not "Christianese", but for real for everyone truth. Almost every chapter ends with a Myth vs. Truth. And almost every single myth she lists is a lie that my heart so wants to tell me is true. Myths like (this is me paraphrasing cause she says it better) "When everything is healed then I can be used by God", "He is punishing me and that's why everything is broken.", "when everything is healed then I can be happy"- and she combats them truths like "God can use my story in the redemption of the nations", "He isn't punishing me, He loves me, and in His love and mercy He is going to use my story to bring hope to other hurting people." "Joy is deeper than just when it "feels better"" I could go on and on, but don't want to just regurgitate what she said - I want people to read it for themselves and hear His love and power and grace just washing over them. I can think of something in every person that loves life and story that needs healing and repair and redemption. And I think everyone would hear His voice saying "I love you - here is my hope to you" through her words.

I wanted to give a shout out to Laura Story. Her song "Blessings" touched me during some very low months while going through chemotherapy. Her latest book "When God Doesn't Fix It" is touching and full of hope and truth. In it she writes: "[In the Bible] Paul didn't call us to suffering. In fact Paul called on God to remove his suffering. But what Paul knew, and what Martin [my husband] and I have learned, is that God is more than present in suffering. He is sufficient...While our broken

circumstances may not change, we can. We do this by clinging to Scripture, discovering who God truly is, being willing to share our story even in the trials, and looking for blessings in our brokenness...I am so thankful God has not called me to a tidy, well-put-together life for the glory of Laura. Instead, He has called me to this messy, unmanageable, and totally dependent on Him life for the glory of God." Listen to her story behind the song and consider this book for your summer reading.

I absolutely loved this book from beginning to end! I've never read such a "spiritual arresting" book. It confronts some hard spiritual truths with grace and humility. If you find yourself in a place of doubt in God's goodness, or His plan for your life, then read this book. It just may change your perspective and help you on your journey with God while your asking Him the hard questions. It's a reminder that we all have brokenness but it's what we do with it, that counts. To me it's a must read!

I cannot say enough about how much this book has touched my life; how I have re-evaluated my complaints and been thankful for MY problems. The book mentions that if we all put our problems on a table and were asked to take one, we'd each take back our own. I admit I would take ownership of mine, thankfully and gratefully. I love Laura's honesty in this book. She writes as if you are sitting together somewhere, and she is sharing her story; it is beautifully written. The Truths, which are at the end of each chapter are cleverly written, easy to remember. I am guilty of every Myth, that each of those Truths expose. Laura's use of scripture makes for excellent Bible study in and of themselves - exposing our brokenness in the healing grace of God's promises. I can't recommend this book enough. If you hold on to bitterness, resentments, constantly ask "Why me?" Or complain that "This can't be my life?!" You will see your circumstance with clearer vision after reading this book.

So often I have heard someone say that God didn't answer a prayer because He didn't give him/her what was asked for. Sometimes God says "Yes", sometimes "Wait", and sometimes "No." There is a purpose in suffering; through suffering or not having life situations come easy, we learn to trust God in a deeper way. We walk by faith, not by sight, and God promises to see us through life--to never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5. Laura Story learned this through the brain surgery her husband went through and him not being fully restored to his normal mental state. It's a very encouraging book!

Very moving story of Laura and Martin Elvington's ongoing faith struggles and the God who pulls them through. I appreciated Laura's genuineness and vulnerability. I had never followed her career very closely so reading this book brought me up to speed and helped me to know the background to some of Laura's more well known works. Laura's greatest contribution to her readers is the invitation for the reader to share their story and let God bring glory through it. Great read.... I hope you'll give it a try.

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