

Does everything happen for a reason?

Question: Does everything happen for a reason?

Answer: This is the wrong question to ask because it assumes that God causes everything to happen—even sin and tragedy. God isn't responsible if a person commits murder, so He doesn't have a "reason" for this sin. God doesn't cause people to sin or cause things to happen out of His will, although He is in control of all things. God is sovereign, which means He has the ability to take the bad things that happen to us and turn them around for our good.

A better question to ask is, "Can God use anything that happens for His purposes?" The answer to that is yes. Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." The verse doesn't say that He causes all things to happen, but that He can cause all things to work together for good.

God is sovereign and can "adopt" our mistakes, failures, and calamities, and work them into His plan. If He couldn't do that, no one would have any hope because we all have sinned and failed.

Before you ask Him to control of the circumstances in your life, make sure that you've asked Him to control you. The promise of Romans 8:28 is for those who are "called according to His purpose." If you will submit yourself to His purpose, you can rest assured that He will work all things together for your good.