

Love on the Right Side

The question came up often in the wake of five tornadoes that tore through Bradley County, Tenn. – Life Care’s hometown – on April 27 of last year, killing nine people, injuring many others, and destroying 500 homes. It also surfaces when a loved one comes down with cancer and dies, or a business owned and led by godly people fails. The question is: “Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people?”



Folks have wrestled with that thought down through the ages. It is one of the mysteries of life.

Max Lucado, author and minister, in a new book, *You Changed My Life: Stories of Real People with Remarkable Hearts*, shares a pertinent story on the subject.

Over a hundred years ago in England, the borough of West Stanley endured a great tragedy. A mine collapsed, trapping and killing many of the workers inside.

The bishop of Durham, Dr. Handley Moule, was asked to bring a word of comfort to the mourners. Standing at the mouth of the mine, he said, “It is very difficult for us to understand why God should let such an awful disaster happen, but we know Him and we trust Him, and all will be right.



“I have at home,” he continued, “an old bookmark given to me by my mother. It is worked in silk, and, when I examine the wrong side of it, I see nothing but a tangle of threads, crossed and re-crossed. It looks like a big mistake. One would think that someone had done it who did not know what she was doing. But, when I turn it over and look at the right side, I see there, beautifully embroidered, the letters GOD IS LOVE.

“We are looking at this today,” the bishop counseled, “from the wrong side. Someday we shall see it from another standpoint, and shall understand.”

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The bishop's wisdom speaks to us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home in dramatic fashion. Not only do we have difficult and challenging issues affecting us individually and in our families, but we also see one side of circumstances our residents are facing.

We can be assured that God's love is on the right side, and one day we will understand. In the meantime, we become His instruments in a ministry to His children.

– Beecher Hunter