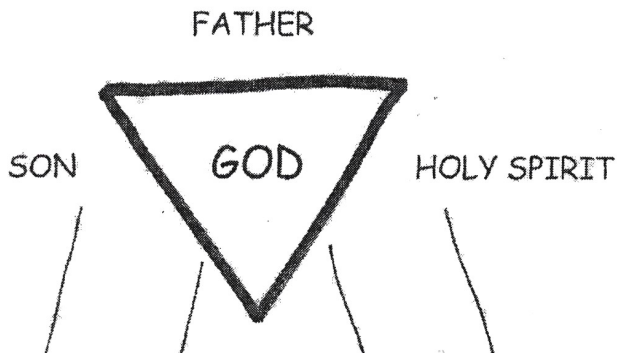


**Rejoice**  
**in**  
**God's Purpose for You**

*A Conversation with God the Father*



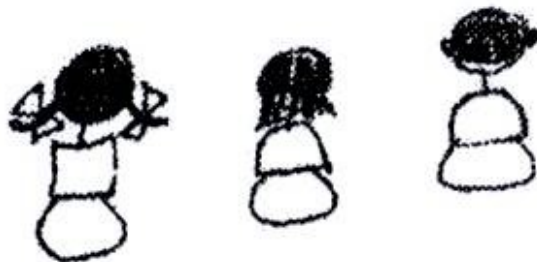
**God the Father:** Hello,

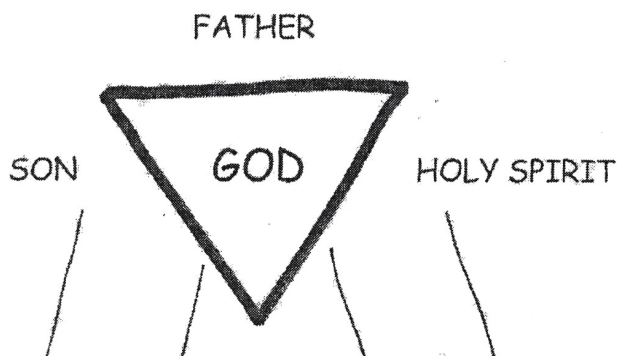
\_\_\_\_\_.

I'm pleased you came to visit with Me.

**Child:** I'm very happy that I can come to You and visit. Today I'd like to discuss with You the scripture, *James 1:2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.* I've been wondering how I can have joy through problems and suffering. The way I look at it, suffering is not too joyful!

**God:** (Smiling) You need to change the way you look at joy. This joy is +H, or the happiness of God.\* It doesn't mean you go around skipping and shouting for joy all the time; it means when you focus on Jesus Christ and His thinking you will have a relaxed mental attitude. That is joy and My happiness and you can have it! \*Go to [allaboardgodstrain.org](http://allaboardgodstrain.org) and read *The Second Part of the Fruit of the Spirit JOY.*



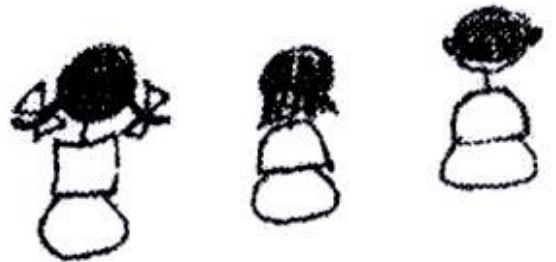


**Child:** Oh! That's awesome!

**God:** Joy, or +H, is a problem solving tool. It will help you

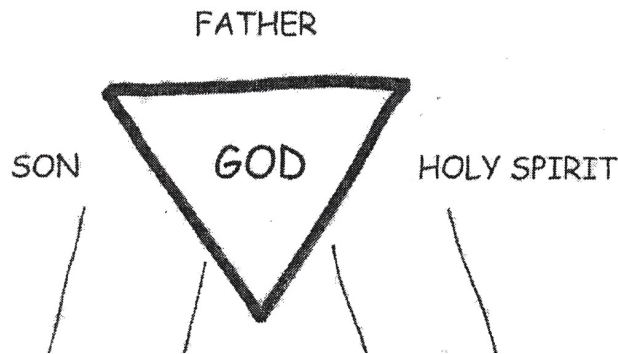
through your problems. It will change the way you look at suffering. You won't be focusing on yourself. You'll be focusing on the Lord Jesus Christ. You'll have faith knowing His ways will get you through any problem.

**Child:** Now that is relaxing! Thinking too much about myself is very tiring; I become very self-centered and emotional. I'm glad concentrating on Jesus and His ways of handling problems will give me what I need to get through my difficulties, and even enjoy - at least some of the times - the journey.



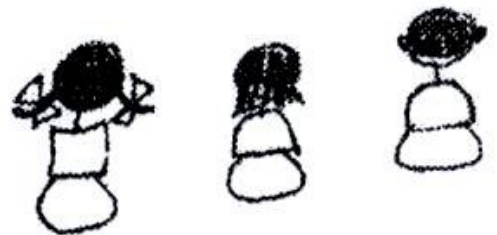
**God:** (Smiles) It's good you are being honest about it. There will be times when it is difficult. There has to be so you can learn to obey my commands and see that I will always be with you through the difficult times as well as the easy times. You will learn to endure or carry on through the suffering.

**Child:** Jesus certainly went through difficult times! He faced difficult temptations, He was rejected by His family as well as His enemies **and** friends. And, this all happened **before** He went to the cross and endured great suffering. He learned obedience to You through His sufferings, relying on the power of the Holy Spirit and Bible doctrine in His soul. He knew You were always there for Him.

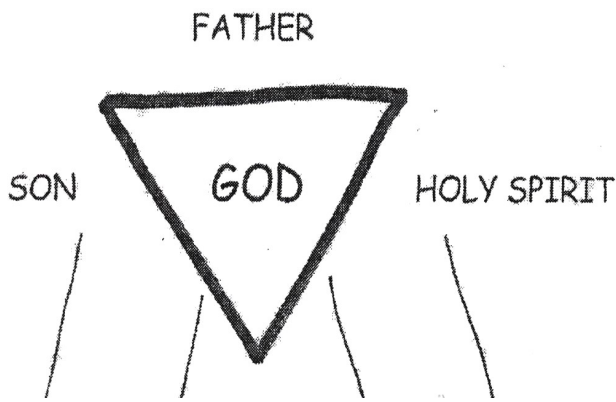


**God:** This led Him to His three trials and the cross, the most difficult of all! He paid the price for mankind's sins so that I would be satisfied and forgive all of their sins. He focused on the "joy set before Him". He endured! He focused on the result!

**God:** My purpose for all believers is to orient to the life of Jesus Christ or get to know Him. Once you know Him you will know that everything you have is



because of grace. That means everything is a free gift to you; you don't earn it or deserve it. Jesus Christ purchased it all for you! When you understand this, you will be sooo thankful and give Jesus Christ the glory!



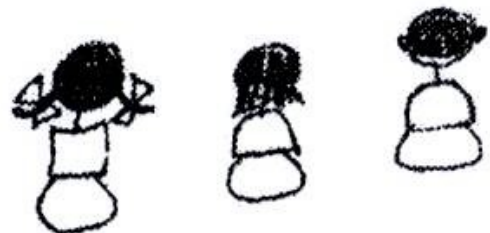
**Child:** I'll be growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ! It

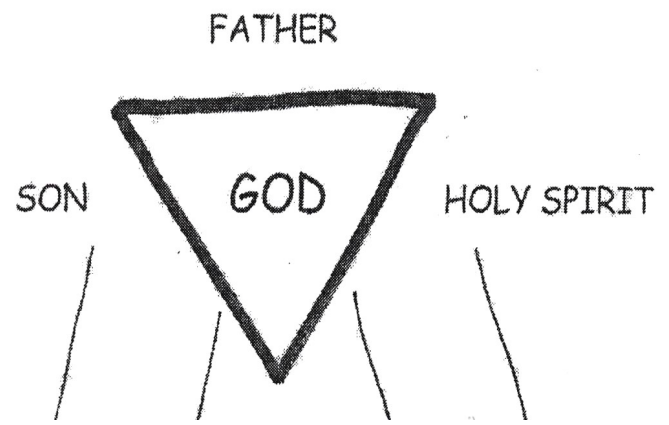
will be the work of the Holy Spirit growing me spiritually, changing my thinking through Bible doctrine, the thinking of Jesus Christ!

**God:** That's right! At salvation, the Holy Spirit placed you in permanent union with the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Vine and you are the branches. You get your nourishment from Him, from His thinking - Bible doctrine. You are to grow in His thinking and produce good fruit, the fruit of the Holy Spirit.\*

\*Go to [allaboardgodstrain.org](http://allaboardgodstrain.org) and read the booklets from the heading *The Fruit of the Spirit*.

**Child:** Father, You've taught us, as branches we will be "cut off the vine" -disciplined - when we get out of Your plan, or don't bear fruit. You do this so we can start producing fruit. And, we will be "pruned" - suffering for blessing- to help us grow good fruit in the spiritual life. You know how to make the best fruit - the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

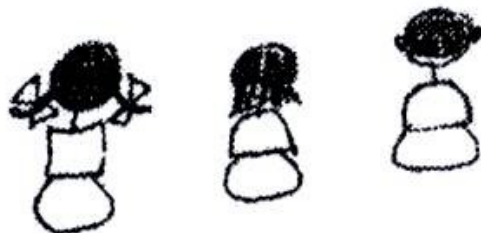


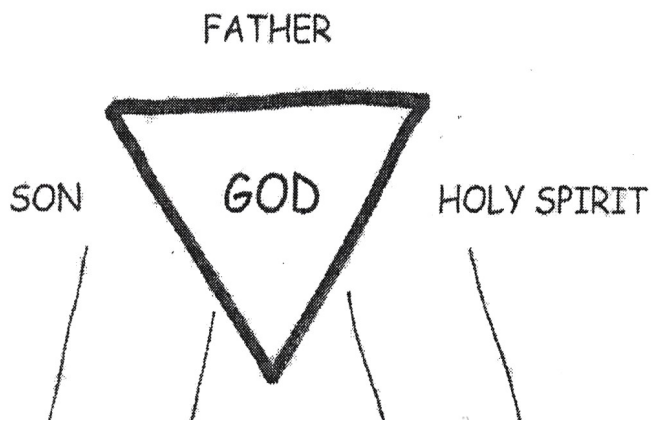


**God:** That's right. You are simply to live in the Vine. Rest in Christ! Have complete confidence and trust in Me, the Vinedresser. I

love you with a perfect love and I want you to have My best! Suffering is one way I use to teach you obedience because you must keep your eyes on Jesus Christ in order to get through the suffering. If you keep your eyes on Jesus, at the end of the suffering you will have grown in His grace and knowledge! You'll be living more like Jesus.

**Child:** You've taught me that anyone who has a "purpose" in life, Your purpose, can take the "how", Your plan of grace. The world tries to make us think that the purpose of life is to be comfy and cozy, doing everything to avoid suffering. The world's ways of dealing with problems don't work. They may work for a little while, but then they crash! Human viewpoint, the world, wants us to rely on ourselves and forget about Jesus Christ.





**God:** My ways are certainly not the world's ways. I want you to rely less on yourself and more on Jesus Christ, the Vine.

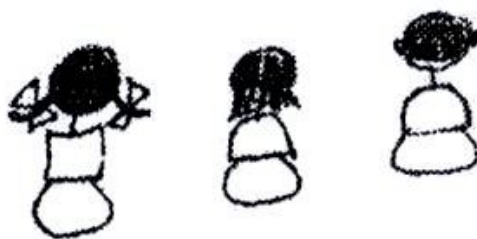
The Vine is patient with His

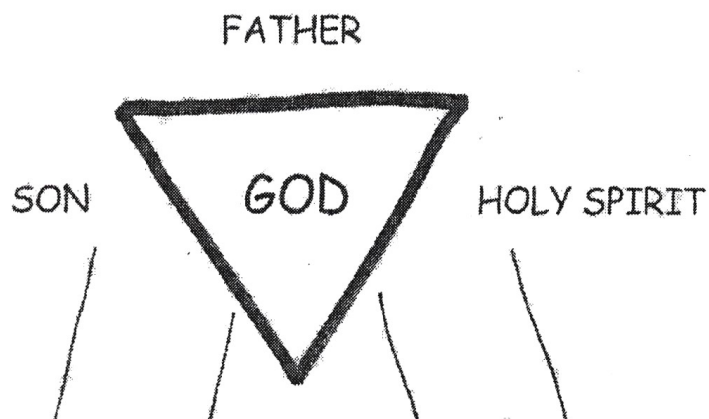
branches; He gives them time to grow. You must be patient with yourself, with others, and with My timing! I am patient with you; I will never give you more than you can handle, and I will always give you a way to get through trials and suffering. I began a good work in you and I will complete it!

**Child:** When I hold on to Your purpose for suffering, it does make it easier; You don't want me to be lacking in Your grace and knowledge. You, almighty God, have me in **Your** purpose! I want to know more about You and Your purpose for me.

**God:** By knowing Jesus Christ, you will learn to know Me. You come to Me through My Son. You just keep learning Bible doctrine and the Holy Spirit will change you; He will make you grow spiritually in My grace and knowledge! Keep your eyes on Jesus Christ and your journey will be joyful because you will have the joy or happiness of the Lord.

**Child:** Oh joy!





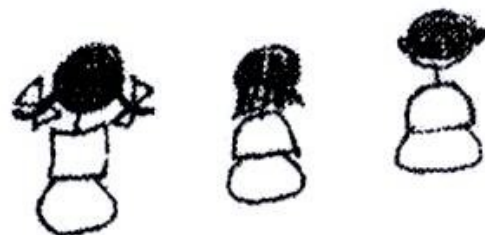
**God:** Included in My purpose for you is to really know Jesus Christ as your best Friend. Then I want you to live like

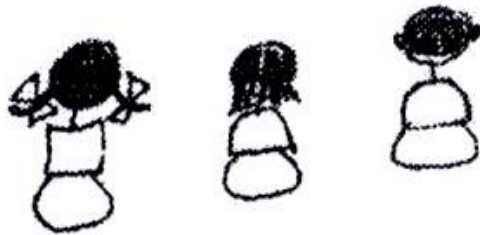
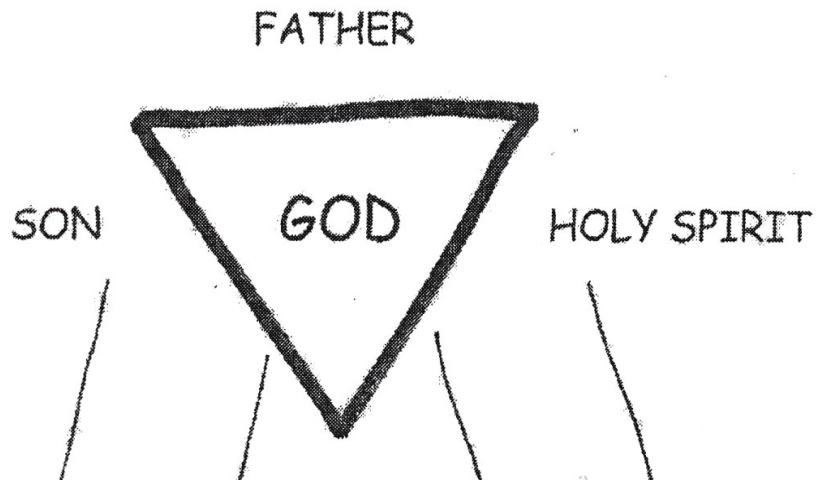
Him, showing the fruit of the Spirit. This will reflect the glory of Jesus Christ. He will be receiving glory and honor!

**Child:** I can have courage and contentment knowing You, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit will get me through this journey on earth and to my final destination in heaven with You! That definitely is joy! I am so grateful to You All!

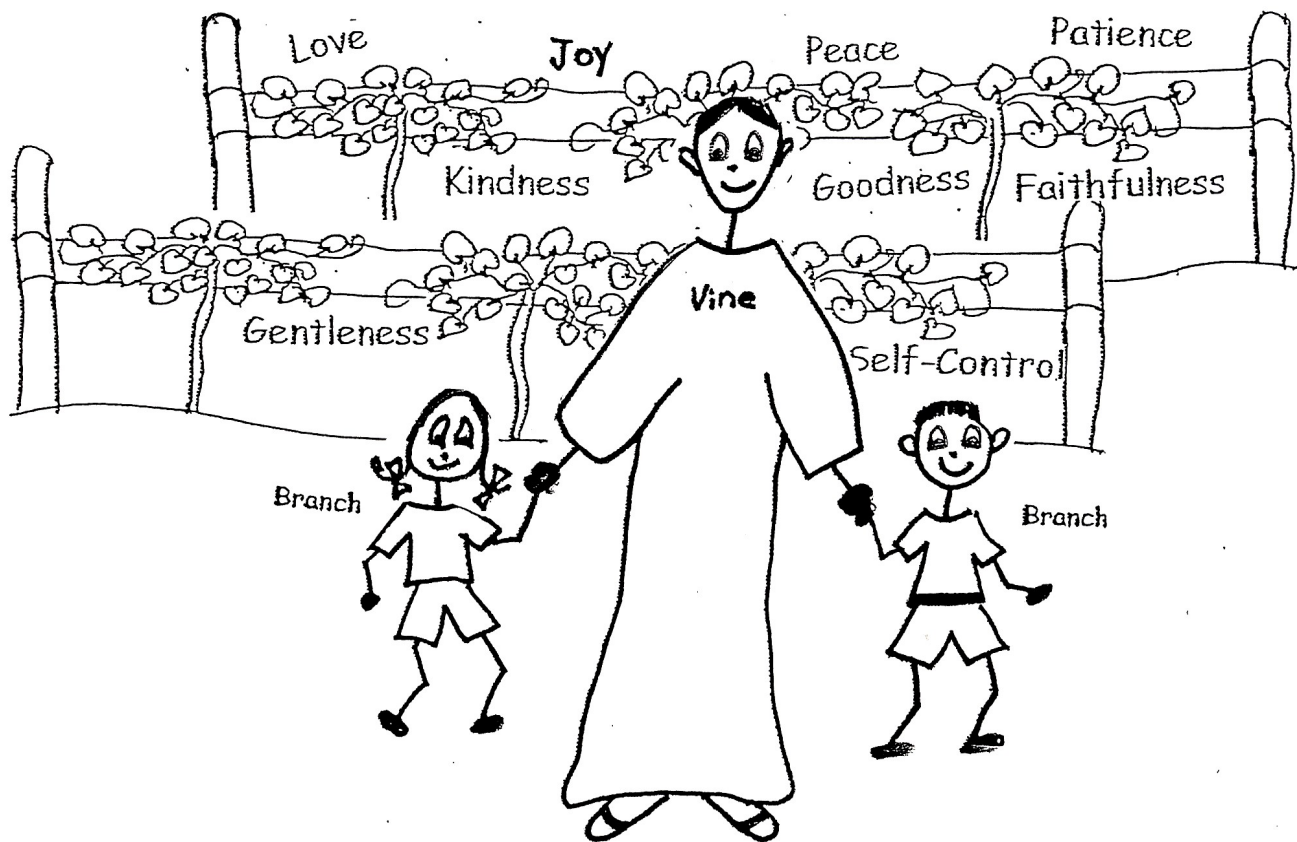
**God:** It shows in your attitude. The next time suffering comes, \_\_\_\_\_ (Put your name in here.) look at what the results are to be: growing in the grace and knowledge of God, and reflecting the glory of Jesus Christ! My focus is on glorifying Jesus Christ now, and having your life do the same -- now! You don't need to wait until heaven for that; you just need to have a deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ. Now, go live in the life of Jesus Christ!

Read *Focus On Commitment to Jesus Christ - Part 1, Jonah*





**Child:** Thank You, Father, for our conversation. Now I can say and mean it, *"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance."* I know You will test my faith in Your Word through suffering. Then when I pass the test -- endure the suffering—I will grow more spiritual muscle. I will grow in Your grace and knowledge. I will have more capacity to live the life of Jesus Christ. Knowing **You** have a special purpose for me on earth is so comforting. Also, knowing what is going to come at the end of my life on earth makes it easier to go through trials and suffering; I will spend eternity in heaven with You, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit rejoicing! What joy!



John 15:5 "I am the Vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing."

*Rejoice In God's Purpose For You*

References: Lighthouse Bible Church

Pastor John Farley

[www.lbible.org](http://www.lbible.org)

Lessons: 10-23 ,26, 30-2011 , 11-2, 3, 6- 2011

