

# Interview 1974

by Corrie Ten Boom

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*Corrie Ten Boom shares her experience of trusting in God's sufficient grace and love in the midst of darkness and suffering.*

**Duration:** 7:20

**Scripture:** Psalm 139:1-4, Matthew 5:44, Romans 5:5, Romans 8:26, 2 Corinthians 12:9

**Topics:** "Faith And Suffering", "Gods Grace"

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## Description

This sermon shares the powerful testimony of a woman who endured imprisonment and suffering during World War II, highlighting how God's grace sustained her through the darkest times. It emphasizes the importance of faith, prayer, forgiveness, and experiencing God's love even in the midst of hatred and cruelty. The message encourages Christians to pray for leaders, forgive others, and trust in God's victory even in times of suffering.

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## Transcript

You know, as we were talking before, perhaps some of the people who are watching now were not familiar with your experience. When, as I understand, you were hiding Jewish people in Holland and the Nazis or the Germans took you and because of this and put you into prison. How long were you in the prison? I was an 11-month prisoner.

First four months in solitary confinement, alone in a cell, and then in a concentration camp in Holland, a German concentration camp, and then in Ravensbruck, a terrible place north of Berlin. And that's where my sister died. She died there, and in that time God somehow kept you sweet and tender towards him.

How did you do it? How did you keep from being just terribly despairing? What kept you buoyed up at this time? That's good, but you know what kept you? Who kept me up? Who kept you? I can tell you, there are circumstances that you cannot do anything, and it was only the Lord who has carried me through, and it is so good that I have experienced that. I had always believed. Now I know from experience that Jesus' light is stronger than the deepest darkness, and a child of God cannot go so deep, always deeper than the epilogue to carry you.

It matters not how dark it is. His light is always there. The devil is strong, but his power is limited, and Jesus' power is unlimited.

And you've been there, and you know. Was his grace always sufficient? There was never a time when his grace was not sufficient for you. Indeed it was always sufficient, but sometimes I lost courage.

You did? Yes, and I remember that once I said, when I looked on the stars, I said, oh Lord, all the stars are in your guidance, but have you forgotten your child, Corita Mom? And then, but I had my Bible with me, and that was such a great joy I had. And then in the Bible I read that the hairs of our head are numbered, and God has the whole universe in his hands. That means that God has a telescopic and a microscopic impression.

And he knew you by name and everything about you. He loved you, even in the midst of it. Yes.

Did you feel at this time that maybe some of the people who were holding you captive may have been under the power of demons? Did you sense a demonic force doing some of these very cruel things? Yes, of course. They were quite in the power of the devil. They were in you? Yes.

Why did you think so? What showed it? Just their actions in general? Yes, their actions and what they said, and they hated God and Jesus. They did? Yes, and the Bible was a forbidden book. How did you get that copy, the copy into the concentration camp? That was a miracle.

You know, when we entered, I had a little Bible, but it was a small Bible, but a whole Bible, the whole New Testament, and I had it hidden under my clothes on my back. And I saw that they took away everything that we had hidden. And I was so scared that I said, oh Lord, send your angels, let them surround me.

Yes. But then I thought, yes, but angels are spirits, and you can look through a spirit, and these people may not see me. So I said, oh God, let your angels this time not be transparent.

God did it. The woman who stood before me was searched, and then my sister who was behind me, and they did not see me. And so I came in the prison with my Bible.

God just actually planted them. They couldn't see you, the angels. We mustn't be too amazed when God does miracles.

What do you think God is calling Christians for today? What task has he got for them? There is a tremendous task for us Christians in this time. For never there has been such a sick world. Pray for your leaders.

Pray. Oh, there are so many people who need prayer. And that is a work that we all have to do, and very important work.

And I know some people say, I don't know how to pray. Yes, this man is a prayer warrior, and these people there, they are prayer warriors, but I don't know how to pray. And then I always say what is written in Romans 8, that the Spirit himself teaches how to pray.

We have to forgive. I was not at peace with men. There was hatred in my heart.

When God was cruel for my friends and for Betsy and me, there came such a hatred in my heart. Oh, and then I learned to take the promise of Romans 5, 5, the love of God is brought into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. And I learned this prayer.

Thank you, Jesus, that you have brought into my heart God's love through the Holy Spirit was given to me. And thank you, Father, that your love in me is stronger than my hatred. And the hatred went, and I could love my enemies.

Praise God. Praise the Lord. And you know, that film that is made of The Hiding Place, that movie shows what it means to go through terrible suffering with Jesus.

Praise God. And that is the message that we must know now, because many people go through terrible suffering. You think in America we're going to go through suffering? Yes, sir.

I believe that. That is what the Bible tells us, that we can, but we have nothing to fear. Amen.

Because Jesus is victor, and he will never let us down. Praise God. But, oh, my times are in God's hands.

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