**FOCUS Bible Study - May 04**

[**VIEW RECORDING - 78 mins (No highlights)**](https://fathom.video/share/zxjzo-a14tfVS3EeUhCdPRj6dkzvm6oW)

[**God's ordered approach @ 0:00**](https://fathom.video/share/zxjzo-a14tfVS3EeUhCdPRj6dkzvm6oW?tab=summary&timestamp=0)

Rick introduced the concept that God orders our lives and allows both good and evil to come into our lives in order to refine us and bring us closer to him. He uses scriptures like Genesis 50:20 and Romans 8:28 to show that God works all things together for good.

[**Partnering with God @ 5:07**](https://fathom.video/share/zxjzo-a14tfVS3EeUhCdPRj6dkzvm6oW?tab=summary&timestamp=307)

Rick discussed how we can partner with God by pausing when difficulties come and looking for what good can come from the situation, then working with God to find solutions. This active participation allows God's creativity to flow through us.

[**Resisting vs observing God @ 34:15**](https://fathom.video/share/zxjzo-a14tfVS3EeUhCdPRj6dkzvm6oW?tab=summary&timestamp=2055)

Rick explained how resisting God, like Jonah initially did, creates "drag" in our lives, while observing God and going with his direction gives us momentum. Our lives are either fixed securely in God or wavering depending on our response to his leading.

[**God prepares our lives @ 58:53**](https://fathom.video/share/zxjzo-a14tfVS3EeUhCdPRj6dkzvm6oW?tab=summary&timestamp=3533)

Rick showed how God prepares every detail of our lives from before birth, like preparing the fish that swallowed Jonah. Surrendering to God's ordering of our steps allows his purposes to be fulfilled in and through us for his glory.

[**Taking the next step with God @ 1:07:51**](https://fathom.video/share/zxjzo-a14tfVS3EeUhCdPRj6dkzvm6oW?tab=summary&timestamp=67)

Rick encouraged moving from obedience out of obligation to wanting to follow God's direction, and ultimately to gratitude that we "get to" partner with him. Discussion focused on boldly sharing faith and evangelizing with God's guidance.