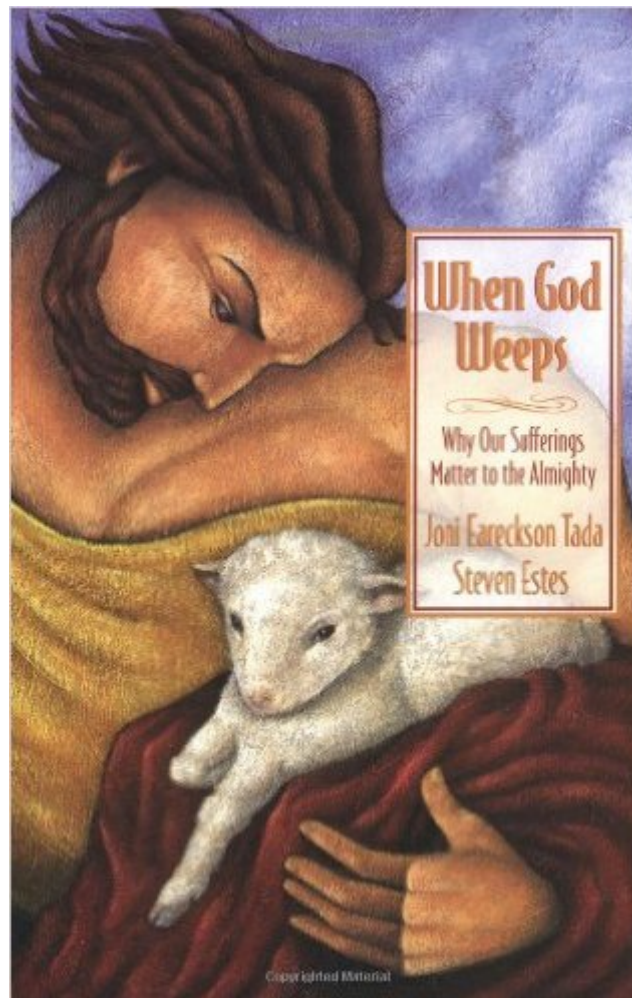


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# When God Weeps



## Synopsis

If God is loving, why is there suffering? What's the difference between permitting something and ordaining it? When bad things happen, who's behind them--God or the devil? When suffering touches our lives, questions like these suddenly demand an answer. From our perspective, suffering doesn't make sense, especially when we believe in a loving and just God. After more than thirty years in a wheelchair, Joni Eareckson Tada's intimate experience with suffering gives her a special understanding of God's intentions for us in our pain. In *When God Weeps*, she and lifelong friend Steven Estes probe beyond glib answers that fail us in our time of deepest need. Instead, with firmness and compassion, they reveal a God big enough to understand our suffering, wise enough to allow it, and powerful enough to use it for a greater good than we can ever imagine.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"When God Weeps: Why Our Sufferings Matter to the Almighty" is one of the absolute best books I've read concerning the issue of "Why do we suffer?!" and "Does it really matter to God?" A friend recommended this book to me, as I have struggled with my own chronic illness and the whole 'Why?' 'For what?' 'How come?' mentality. Plainly put, suffering is hard. There is nothing "glorious" about it. Since dealing with my disease and after reading this book, I've come to see that suffering takes us to a whole new level of God's grace. It accomplishes things we may not truly understand in this life. It is a teacher, albeit a difficult one a lot of times, but it draws us closer to God. It produces endurance and sharpens our character. Joni Eareckson Tada co-wrote this book with her pastor friend, Steven Estes, although Tada wrote the majority of it. I receive so well from her, because of

all she has endured. She is an inspiration to me. This book is scripture based and the firm, honest, yet compassionate approach to this painful issue was very well articulated. Sometimes, that can be a difficult feat to accomplish in the face of tragedy. I think so often, we as Christians may view "suffering" as something that involves only religious issues, when in fact, it permeates through every facet of our lives. This is another topic they touch on. She talks a little bit about some of her own struggles and gained insights over the years, and introduces us to a lot of people she's met along the way, who also endure suffering. Endure meaning to live with, to cope with. She asks the hard questions, but doesn't give 'pat answers.' This book is really more about the truths of God regarding suffering, than just 'suffering,' itself. There is a difference.

Last summer my 63 year old husband of 30 years walked out on our marriage because he "fell in love" with a married woman with 2 pre-school children who is half his age. I found out by "accident" and when I realized what this seminary graduate, pillar of the Christian community, had been doing for so long, my heart and my soul...my very world...were shattered forever. When the truth sank in, I fell on my face before God, weeping as only someone who has lost all she held dear can weep. I was sobbing and begging, "Why, Lord? Why? What did I do that was SO terrible that You would allow this to happen to me?" God never answered that question, but what He did do is reach down and take me by the hand and lead me through the deepest waters I have ever experienced. And in that process of leading, loving, guiding, He led me to this extraordinary little book, WHEN GOD WEEPS. Next to the Bible itself, this book (along with one other I've read and absorbed) has shown me the "why" of my soul sorrow and pain to the extent that God will allow me to know it. It has given me a perspective that is beyond myself and my own suffering. WHEN GOD WEEPS should be "must" reading in every household because every household will experience sorrow and grief and suffering--at some time and in some way. What this book leaves me knowing is that...for all my pain and grief...I know my God better than I have ever known Him. He is eloquent in His silence, persevering in His leading, tender in His loving provision, and relentless in the refining of my character. WHEN GOD WEEPS is a beautiful, realistic testament to the pain of living in a fallen world. If you are in deep sorrow and grief...

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