# **EXAMINING MY EXPERIENCES**

"And we know that in ALL things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:278

"Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel" Phil. 1:12

One of the most overlooked factors in determining the ministry God has for me is my past experience, particularly my hurts and problems I've overcome with God's help. Since our greatest life messages come out of our weaknesses, not our strengths, we should pay close attention to what we've learned in the "school of hard knocks".

#### **GOD NEVER WASTES A HURT!**

HE WANTS YOU TO BE OPEN TO MINISTERING TO PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING THROUGH WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN THROUGH!

"(God)... Wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. And why does he do this? So when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them the same help and comfort God has given us!" 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (LB)

#### ON YOUR MINISTRY PROFILE RECORD THESE EXPERIENCES:

## \* Your Spiritual Experiences

Meaningful decisions/times with God

### \* Your Painful Experiences

Problems, hurts, trials-that have taught you

### \* Your Educational Experiences

What were your favorite subjects in school

## \* Your Ministry Experiences

How have you served in the past