

## **Life is like a box of chocolates – Romans 5**

**Sermon by Matt Bird founder of the Cinnamon Network**

**(Abridged by Rev'd Charlie Boyle friend and member of the Board of Cinnamon)**

Life is like a box of chocolates (*without the guide as to which chocolate is which because Matt took out the instruction panel/guide*), as you don't know what you are going to get!

Some of us may recall the film, ***Forest Gump***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CJh59vZ8ccc>

In life just because you are a Christian does not immunise you from bad things happening to you.

- Bad things happen to good people
- Good things happen to bad people

What counts is our attitude to how we handle things in life, as it says in Romans 5: 1-5

**Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.**

**Suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>**

**perseverance, character;**

**and character, hope.**

I have a friend who has been recently diagnosed with the return of an aggressive form of cancer. It is going to be hard for him and his family but his attitude as to how he is handling it is amazing.

Now each of you have received a chocolate and you did not know which one you were going to get because I took away the instructions, life is like that, good and bad things happen to us.

It is our attitude as to how we handle them that counts.

Amen.

**NB Please note this is not a full version of the sermon, just some of the main points and Bible reading....it is always best to hear speakers live!**