

# SERMON NOTES

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**Date:** January 21, 2018

**Title:** Our Times are in God's Hands

**Text:** Psalm 31:15

**Big Idea:** We can trust God's omnipotent hand to hold us fast no matter what trials and temptations we face.

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# MAKE IT REAL

Questions for Personal Application and Small Group Discussion

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## REVIEW THE SERMON

Read Psalm 31. How does verse 15 help shape a distinctly Christian world view of our life and difficulties? \_

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## ASSESS YOUR LIFE

The troubles of life often have a way of testing our belief in God's omnipotent and loving control over the circumstances in which we find ourselves. Which of the following conclusions do you tend to make in response to the idea that our times are in God's hands?

- God is loving, but he's not omnipotent or he would prevent what hurts me.
- God is in control of some things, but not every detail of my life. He loves me and makes the best out of bad situations, but allows human choices and natural forces to determine outcomes.
- God proves his love for me by being in sovereign control over every detail of my life, even things that from my perspective hurt me. God is ultimately working out every detail for my good and his glory.
- God is omnipotent, but he is not loving or he would prevent what hurts me.

What Biblical teaching do you base your conclusions on? What do your conclusions reveal about your understanding of the nature and character of God? \_\_\_\_\_

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## APPLY THE TRUTH

Identify a difficult circumstance in your life. How do each of the six ways that God holds your life in his hand bring you hope and comfort amid this difficulty? \_\_\_\_\_

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What doubts do you have about the ways God's hand holds you? What does the Bible say to counteract those doubts and bolster your confidence in God's omnipotent hand? \_\_\_\_\_

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