



Surviving Crisis

Adapted from “Family Survivor” series by Rod Loy

We have a lot of fun in our family. We have learned to not take life too seriously. Each one in our family has a story to tell about funny events that we have walked through at some point in our lives. But, not all family moments are fun or funny.

Life is not one long fun-filled vacation. Challenges arise. Hard times come. Some days are filled with tension, pain, frustration, and regret instead of laughter. At some point, every person and every family will find themselves facing an unexpected crisis.

- Your child turns from what he or she knows is right.
 - Their sin causes you to be depressed, even despondent.
 - The tension stresses every relationship in the home.
- Your spouse lies about your true financial condition.
 - You thought the family was doing great. You're not.
 - In fact, you are on the verge of disaster.
- You get a bad report from the doctor.
 - Suddenly, instead of a happy, healthy family, you are under extreme stress – and fighting for your life.
- For the first time, the word “divorce” is used in your marriage. You aren't sure if it's a threat or a real possibility.
- Your retirement account loses 50% in one year.
 - The resulting financial crisis changes
 - College plans
 - Vacation plans
 - Savings goals

Digging out does not seem possible. Every family faces tough times. My family has. Your family will. That is all part of living in this sin-filled natural world.

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The question is not “will your family face tough times?” You will. The question is how will you survive the tough times? What do you say? What do you do? How do you make it through? Staying together in the fun times is easy, but how do we survive the hard times?

COURAGE

C1: Write down some of your funniest childhood memories. Sit down with your family and ask them to tell their funniest family moment this far.

C2: Write down a tough family moment growing up. Sit down with your family and ask each one to tell their family tough time moment.

C3: How do you make it through your tough time?

STRENGTH

S1: Surviving a crisis sometimes involves some improbably moments. Read and answer the following.

1 Kings 17:7–9 (ESV)

- From these verses, describe the crisis.

- What can you glean from the worst of crisis?

S2: What is your tendency in a crisis? Write it down then read and answer the following.

1 Kings 17:9–11 (ESV)

- From these verses, what do you glean about God's plan for you during a crisis?

S3: Christians tend to spiritualize the crisis people are going through. Read and answer the following.

1 Kings 17:11–12 (ESV)

- From these verses, what are two things you glean about going through a crisis?

- On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being very honest and 4 being not very honest, rate yourself on how honest you are during a crisis.

ENDURANCE

E1: When you are in crisis, your emotions are harder to control. Read and answer the following.

1 Kings 17:13 (ESV)

- From this verse, what do you glean about being in the middle of a crisis?
- What steps can you take to keep from being afraid?

E2: When we are in a crisis we want God to fix the situation immediately. Read and answer the following.

1 Kings 17:13–14 (ESV)

- From these verses, what are two things you do glean about being in a crisis?
- Describe a crisis in your life and God's provision amid your crisis.

E3: Too many times your obedience to God only lasts until there is a crisis. Read and answer the following.

1 Kings 17:15–16 (ESV)

- From these verses, what are two things you glean about going through a crisis?
- Describe a time of God's faithfulness during your crisis.