

# MAUPIN MESSAGE

## Can I Get an Amen? So Be It!

So be it. Did you know that that phrase, “so be it,” is the common translation for the word Amen? In my research recently I discovered that the Bible uses amen to cite authenticity and voracity—truthfulness. Your preferred translation may quote Jesus as saying “Verily, verily, I say unto you . . .” Amen, Amen, is what Jesus was saying, often doubling for emphasis that this is the Word of God which is always truthful.

I believe God wants me to agree with Him and His perspective on everything He allows in my life. The good, joyful, encouraging things as well as the things that hurt, bring sorrow, are confusing and disappointing. **Romans 8:28** encourages believers as it is written, **“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good for those who love God and are called according to His purpose.”** I believe the Holy Spirit has emphasized “all things” so that I understand that God means, well, ALL THINGS! I have for most of my life struggled with feeling sorrow, pain and confusion. I didn’t know that I had a finely-honed stoicism disguised as “spirituality.” I had a habit of mis-applying **1 Corinthians 10:13**, **“No temptation has seized you except that which is common to man and God is faithful for He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you can bear. And even when tempted, He will enable you to stand up under it.”** Rick’s translation: Don’t worry, God’s got it. Therefore, based on my interpretation, I often failed to agree with God that things in my life—especially things that didn’t make sense or were painful—actually affected me, even though they were going to be okay eventually. Why waste time being hurt, sad or confused? God’s got this. Counseling exposed the stoicism years ago. I’ve been working on being authentic with my feelings ever since.

Lately, however, it seems the emphasis is on agreeing with God. So I studied the meaning of the word Amen, which I say often when I agree with a message, an on-point analysis, or when I close in prayer. So be it! Trust God for He is truthful and agree with God’s perspective on whatever He allows in my life. Admit to God—and to myself—that at times I hurt, I’m sad, I’m confused (and that I’m filled with awe and joy and honored, as well). That aligns me with what God already knows. Amen helps me agree with God’s view. So be it!

Please remain in prayer for **FCA’s Fields of Faith** outreach event. The one I’m working on is being held at **Little Rock Christian Academy** from **6-7:30 p.m. October 13**, and there are hundreds more across the country. The events bring student-to-student Gospel ministry to life. I am blessed by your support—in prayer and financially.. Amen!

