A Grace Disguised

By Jerry Sittser

1. Preface to the Expanded Edition
   1. I longed for normality, though I had learned early on that my definition of normality would have to change drastically. p.13
   2. Needed to turn Private thoughts into Public good p.14
   3. No one suffers loss in the abstract. p.14
   4. Our story has turned out to be Redemptive ...for all p.14
2. Preface to the First Edition
   1. Sooner or later all people suffer loss p.17
   2. Loss is as much a part of normal life as birth
   3. Each experience of loss becomes a defining moment of our lives p.17
   4. The focus must be on how we respond to loss p.17
   5. There is no recovery. It is unrealistic to expect it...maybe even harmful to expect p.17
   6. Loss is like a terminal illness ...our souls will need to heal p.18
   7. Having reflections on the experience is an important part of healing p.18
   8. One begins to acknowledge the universality of this experience p.18
   9. Do not expect to communicate the utterly devastating nature of one’s suffering p.19
   10. Must face the darkness and accept the weakness of our human nature p.19
   11. My suffering is as puzzling and horrible to me now as it was the day it happened p.19
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   2. It is unrelenting, unforgiving, and uncontrollable, brutally erosive to body, mind, and spirit. p.24
   3. They had been married roughly 20 years p.24
   4. A family who had it “together”...ministry, education and resources p. 24
   5. One remembers the event as in slow motion ..frozen in memory p.25
   6. Soon darkness engulfs and can’t figure a way out...unspeakable agony p.25
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   8. Thought of losing my mind and overwhelmed with depression p. 27
   9. A feeling of unrelenting exhaustion and anguish...will there be another day p.28
   10. Wisely, the bible encourages forty (40) days of mourning ..after which time the tears began to dry because it could no longer express the mourning p.28
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