

SERMON NOTES, 10.2.16

Title: The Other Side of Suffering

Text: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11



I. The Encouragement of God

- A. **In Christ** v3
- B. **In Comfort** v4
- C. **In Affliction** v4

II. The Deliverance of God

- A. **From Despair** v8
- B. **From Hopelessness** v10
- C. **From Isolation** v11

III. The Purpose of God

- A. **Our Reliance on Him** v9
- B. **Our Prayers for Each Other** v11
- C. **Our Empathy for One Another** v4

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2. The Deliverance of God

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3. The Purpose of God

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR ABF

1. Verse 3 blesses "the Father of mercies and God of all comfort."
Why is this important to remember in the midst of our sufferings?
2. Verse 4 gives an obvious application for us in "so that we..."
Discuss what you have experienced that you can help others with.
3. Verse 5 states that we share in Christ's sufferings.
Name one thing you suffer for the sake of Christ.
4. Verse 7 informs us that Paul's hope for the Corinthians is "unshaken."
Discuss how Paul can be so very sure of the comfort to come.
5. Verse 8 uses the term "so utterly burdened," and has the idea of "pressed down or weighed down." Describe a time you felt this type of pressure.
6. Verse 9 describes the heavy, breath-taking feeling of a situation that is humanly hopeless. Make a list of situations that make us feel this way.
7. Verse 10 uses the word "deliver(ed)" 3 times. Discuss how deliverance is past, present, and future and how these can each encourage us and others.
8. Verse 11 states "You must help us by prayer." Discuss why your prayer life is a "must" for the other members of the Body of Christ
9. Verse 11 uses the phrase "we will give thanks on your behalf."
List some thanks you've given on the behalf of others.
10. What is your next step in being able to comfort others with your comfort?

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