

What Comfort in Times of Suffering...

2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Pastor Dave Keehn

Family Devotions: *Share with your children what you learned in the sermon & ask*

Elementary Children & Youth: When you are having a bad day – to whom do you go to for a hug and comfort?

Youth: Why is it hard to rely on God when you are having trouble in life?

Branch Group Questions: *Reflect on these questions to deepen your applications*

1. When it comes to sharing pain, are you like Paul, able to tell others (v. 8-11), or do you keep your pain to yourself? Why do you think you are like this?
2. When have you experienced God's comfort in your life? How is God's character and action revealed in Scripture comforting?
3. Why does knowing God has a purpose for our pain provide comfort and empowerment for ourselves?
4. How has God's comfort enabled you to comfort others?
5. Why is it hard to rely on God when you are having trouble in life?
6. What does it mean to have a "Resurrection Mindset"?
7. How do you respond to pressures that seem beyond your ability to handle? Why does it take hardship to bring us to a point of surrender and rely on God? How will you rely on God this week?
8. Who is someone you can comfort this week? How will you comfort them with the comfort you have received from God?

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 1:9-10 NIV

Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and He will deliver us again. On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us...