

The Comfort of Shared Prayer

Text: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

October 24th, 2026

Big Idea: In our deepest affliction, God floods us with His comfort when we speak honestly about our suffering and pray about it together.

Context is key!

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Point 1: Pray for COMFORT in AFFLICTION (vv.3-4a)

Question #3

- a) **Rd vv. 3-4a.** In the midst of affliction, what did Paul do?
- b) What does it mean that God is the “God of all comfort”? How should that truth impact how you walk through the affliction/trial/hardship?
- c) What two aspects about God did Paul choose to focus on to find comfort?
- d) Does God’s comfort guarantee His deliverance from affliction? Why or why not?
- e) How should knowing that truth encourage you in the affliction?

Question #4

Please use your fruit to root tool for this question.

- a) When you face hardships/afflictions/trials, how do you respond?
- b) What fruit comes forward when you respond that way?
- c) What lie are you believing in at that moment?
- d) What is it that you really want?
- e) What gospel treasure(s) are you not believing that are truly yours, which is leading you to grasp for this worldly treasure?
- f) Find a passage of Scripture that emphasizes that specific gospel treasure. Now pray for the gospel fruit in your life that the Holy Spirit will bring forth as you believe that truth and walk by faith.

Point 2: Pray to BE a COMFORT in AFFLICTION (vv.4b-7)

Question #5

- a) **Rd vv. 4b-7:** What is the purpose behind God's comfort?
- b) Why is it essential for us to remember that truth? What happens when we forget that truth?
- c) What is one practical next step that you can take this week in Christ's power to be a comfort towards someone that God has put around you?

Point 3: Pray with OTHERS in AFFLICTION (vv.8-11)

Question #6

- a) **Rd vv. 8-11.** What was God showing Paul through the affliction that He had gone through?
- b) What burden are you keeping to yourself right now that you need to confess and invite other brothers/sisters in to pray for you?
- c) Spend time in prayer for one another.

Question #7

- a) Rd Matthew 26:36-39. How did Jesus respond in the midst of affliction?
- b) How does Jesus' response encourage you in a situation you are facing right now?
- c) As you prepare for Small Group this week, take time in prayer and reflection on this.

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group or in accountability praying out of **2 Corinthians 1:3-11...**

- a) ADORATION: Lord Jesus, I praise you because you are _____.
- b) CONFESSION: Lord Jesus, I confess and repent of turning to _____ for comfort in the midst of _____.
- c) THANKSGIVING: Lord Jesus, I thank you for the power of the gospel that _____.
- d) SUPPLICATION: Lord Jesus, I ask for your grace to: i) help me to turn to you for comfort. ii) help me be a channel of comfort to those around me. iii) help me share in the suffering.

Memory Verse:

"³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4