

Message Based Discussion

2 Corinthians 1:1-11

1. What did you like about this passage?
2. What did you find hard to accept or understand?
3. What does this passage teach about people?
4. What does this passage teach us about God? What does it teach about Jesus?
5. What will you do now? Based on this passage, how will your life change?
6. How specifically are you going to live out today's lesson?
7. Who will you tell? With whom will you have a conversation about this passage?

The Call to Christian Discipleship

Paul uses the word *comfort* more than a dozen times at the beginning of a letter that will speak much of suffering. As Christians we should find comfort in our salvation, but how often do we find comfort in our affliction? Paul was living an afflicted life, for the sake of Jesus Christ. In what ways does your affliction give glory to God?

The Call to Missional Living

Paul concludes this section of Scripture with a reference to the “prayers of many”. Prayer plays a significant role in the life of the believer and the life of the church. The *many* that Paul mentions here is *many people*. So, from a missional living perspective how often do you find yourself gathered with *many* for the purpose of prayer?

Memorize: Verse of the month (Devotion)

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

—Romans 12:1

Comfort Through Despair

2 Corinthians 1:1-11

October 2, 2016

Reading: Isaiah 51:12-16

1. Salutation (v. 1-2)

- Paul, an apostle

- Timothy, our brother

- Corinth, a church of God

2. Doxology of Comfort (v. 3-7)

- God
- Suffering
- Ministry

3. Deliverance from affliction (v. 8-11)

- Sovereignty in suffering
- The character of endurance
- The blessing of prayer