



“Comfort Works”

Ministering to the Hurting
II Corinthians 1:8-14

Comforting brings:

I. Hope – “we trust that He will yet deliver us” (vs. 8-10)

It’s about:

- A. **Despair** – “we despaired even of life”
- B. **Dependence** – “we should not trust in ourselves but in God”
- C. **Deliverance** – “Who delivered us from so great a death”

II. Help - “Ye also helping together” (v. 11)

It’s about:

- A. **People** – “by the means of many persons”
- B. **Prayers** – “by prayer for us”
- C. **Praise** – “thanks may be given by many on our behalf”

III. Honor – “ye have acknowledged us” (vs. 12-14)

It’s about:

- A. **Conscience** - “the testimony of our conscience”
- B. **Conduct** – “we have had our conversation in the world”
- C. **Camaraderie** – “we are your rejoicing... as ye also are ours”

Sentence Sermon

“To comfort someone in trouble is to honor them with hope.”

Additional Verses

- *Colossians 2:20*
- *James 3:13-16*
- *II Corinthians 4:16-18; 5:10-11; 11:22-29*
- *James 3:15-17*
- *I John 5:4-5*
- *III John 1:12*
- *I John 2:15-17*
- *Titus 2:12-13*
- *I Peter 3:15*
- *II Peter 3:12-15*
- *I Thessalonians 5:17*
- *I Timothy 2:1-4*
- *Psalms 34:17*
- *Philippians 2:16*

Questions to Ponder

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
3. Why is it so important that they are not ignorant of Paul’s troubles?
4. What are some habits or things you do to remember to trust in God?
5. What has God done to give us reason to hope in Him for the future?
6. What does verse 11 tell us about prayer?
7. How does the way Paul handled adversity compare with the world’s way?
8. What was Paul hoping they would be able to read between the lines? v. 13
9. How can we “acknowledge” each other and be each other’s rejoicing?
10. What does verse 14 suggest about our time before the bema seat?