

GENUINE COMFORT AND HOPE

2 Corinthians 1:3-14

GODLY SUFFERING & COMFORT

1:3-11

- Paul endured deep, real distress and spoke of it openly and vulnerably.
- As Christians, we share in the sufferings of Jesus. Those hardships are not punishment but indicate our fellowship with Him.
- In all our pain, we have the promise of God's comfort, His sustaining presence and encouragement.
- Suffering provides an opportunity to increase our reliance on God and give us a greater taste of His mercy, exhortation, and power.
- Your sufferings and comfort from Christ are not for you alone; they are meant to be shared with others.

*Anticipate suffering and talk about _____ of it with God.
See, trust, and praise the comfort of _____.
Share your pain and God's comfort with _____.*

GODLY LEADERSHIP

1:12-14

- Paul's experience with suffering strengthened his ministry rather than discredited it.
- Paul embodied the Gospel reframing of leadership, moving from cultural metrics to integrity and sincerity.

*Lean into the Gospel so that you
look for and model holy, genuine _____.*

2 Corinthians 11:24-30

Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

Philippians 3:10

...that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit...

2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...