

IV. PRAISE HIM BECAUSE HE IS THE GOD OF ALL COMFORT (1:3d-4a)

“The hole that is formed inside of us is not shaped like an ice-cream cone, a vodka bottle, a cigarette, or a good-looking guy. The hole is shaped like the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. He is the one who is meant to fill our empty places and heal our hurts.”

--Amy Parham
10 Lessons From A Former Fat Girl

*“16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”*

John 14:16-18

“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

I John 4:4

*“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”*

Galatians 5:22-23

CONCLUSION:

Remember what God is to you.

“1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

2 My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.”

Psalm 121:1-2

HOPE FOR YOU

**Praise Ignites Hope
Pastor Steve Reynolds**

INTRODUCTION

A. Sometimes life’s hurts are so overwhelming you feel hopeless. Whether your concerns include emotional pain, financial insecurity, family drama, health issues or problems at work, you don’t have to live without hope. No matter your circumstances, through God you can find hope in your hurts.

“Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him For the help of His countenance.” Psalm 42:5 NKJV

B. In this series, you will learn how there is Hope For You! You will discover four thoughts about God that provide hope.

TODAY	Praise Ignites Hope
April 3	Serving Activates Hope
April 10	Faith Maximizes Hope
April 17	Prayer Fuels Hope

Come and find hope in your hurt.

C. TEXT: II Corinthians 1:1-4a (Pew Bible/Page 183/New Test.)

II Corinthians 1:1-11 shows us how to find hope in the midst of hurt. In this passage the apostle Paul was hurting (1:8) and he tells us what he did to find comfort. The word “comfort” or “consolation” (same root word in Greek) are repeated _____ times in this passage.

HOW PRAISE IGNITES HOPE

#1 Hope For You Thought: Remember what God is _____ you.

“3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

4 Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.” Isaiah 26:3-4

“Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.” Psalm 150:2

I. PRAISE HIM BECAUSE HE IS GOD (1:3a)

“God’s sovereignty is the attribute by which He rules His entire creation, and to be sovereign God must be all-knowing, all-powerful, and absolutely free”

-- A.W. Tozer
The Knowledge Of The Holy

“33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?

35 Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?

36 For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.” Romans 11:33-36

“I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” Psalm 34:1

“And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.”

Job 1:21

II. PRAISE HIM BECAUSE HE IS THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (1:3b)

The greatest proof of God’s love for us is that He had but the one Son and He _____ Him for us.

“31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?” Romans 8:31-32

“22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.” John 5:22-23

“I and my Father are one.” John 10:30

III. PRAISE HIM BECAUSE HE IS THE FATHER OF MERCIES (1:3c)

Mercy is God not giving us what we _____ deserve and grace is God giving us what we do _____ deserve.

“22 It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.” Lamentations 3:22-23

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,” I Peter 1:3

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.” Psalm 23:6