

### III. GOD GIVES COMFORT \_\_\_\_\_ US (1:5-7)

God deepens your \_\_\_\_\_ when you comfort others.

- A. It deepens your relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ (v5)

*“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:”*  
I Peter 2:21

*“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;”*  
Philippians 3:10

- B. It deepens your relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ (vs 6-7)

*“25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.*

*26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.”*  
I Corinthians 12:25-26

*“6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you:*

*7 Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:”*  
I Thessalonians 3:6-7

### CONCLUSION:

Remember what God does through 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

**Serving Activates 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.

March 27	Praise Ignites Hope
TODAY	Serving Activates Hope
April 10	Faith Maximizes Hope
April 17	Prayer Fuels Hope

Come and find hope in your hurt.

- C. **TEXT:** II Corinthians 1:4-7 (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 SERVING ACTIVATES HOPE

#2 Hope For You Thought: Remember what God does through 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

*“Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.”* I Thessalonians 5:11

### I. GOD GIVES COMFORT \_\_\_\_\_ US (1:4a)

God has to work \_\_\_\_\_ you before He can work \_\_\_\_\_ you.

A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of comfort is \_\_\_\_\_.

*“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

B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of comfort is \_\_\_\_\_.

*“14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.*

*15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

*16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”* Hebrews 4:14-16

## II. GOD GIVES COMFORT \_\_\_\_\_ US (1:4b)

God does not comfort you just to make you comfortable, but to also make you a \_\_\_\_\_.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ your experiences.

*“3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;*

*4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:”* Romans 5:3-4

*“Have ye suffered so many things in vain?...”* Galatians 3:4a

B. \_\_\_\_\_ your lessons.

*“And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.”* Genesis 30:27

*“And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.”* Deuteronomy 8:2

C. \_\_\_\_\_ your comfort.

*“12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;*

*13 So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places;*

*14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.”* Philippians 1:12-14