

# Divine Comfort



# Unstable World



- In this study, you'll learn how to identify the Lord's reassuring presence in changing times.
- ***2 Corinthians 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,***

# *HOW DOES GOD COMFORT US?*

## **1. BY REMINDING US HE'S STILL IN CONTROL – In times of Evil**

a. What did Jesus say about fearing man more than we fear God?

***Matthew 10:28 - Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.***

b. How then should we view the death of believers?  
***1 Thessalonians 4:13-18***

# *HOW DOES GOD COMFORT US?*

## **2. BY COMFORTING US THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*Psalm 69:20* - Sometimes there is no person to comfort us

*Psalm 103:13* – Jesus comforts us

*How do you feel, knowing that God has the same type of compassion for you that a good father has for his children?*

- **God will have mercy upon the afflicted, because of His compassion; upon His afflicted, because of His covenant. We have no more reason to question His promise and grace, than we have to question His providence and justice. Be assured that God has a tender affection for His church and people.**

*Isaiah 49:13 - Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains! For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones.*

*Psalm 119:76 - May your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant.*

***What is God's response to those who are suffering? Why do you think it is a blessing to be comforted solely by God on occasion, instead of by another person?***

# *HOW DOES GOD COMFORT US?*

## **3. BY ENCOURAGING US THROUGH HIS WORD**

*Psalm 119:50 - My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life.*

*Psalm 119:52 - I remember your ancient laws, O Lord, and I find comfort in them.*

*In your opinion, why did David believe the Word of God revived and comforted him? Has reading and meditating on the Bible comforted you in the past? How?*

# *WHAT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY?*

## **1. CHOOSE NOT TO GIVE IN TO FEAR**

- *The harms that surprise us, giving us no time to protect ourselves, are most likely to put us into confusion.*

*Proverbs 3:25-26 - Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, [26] for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared.*

- *End Result:*

*John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

- The Bible does not promise a carefree or harmless life.

*Revelation 2:10 - Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

# *WHAT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY?*

- **2. CONTINUE TO LIVE RIGHTEOUSLY**

Obeying God's rules doesn't protect us from all pain. But it does mean we won't cause ourselves unnecessary heartache. In obedience, we find protection and blessing.

*Psalm 119:67 - Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.*

*What old sinful habits return to your life when you face tragedy or other highly stressful situations? Ask God to help you turn to Him for comfort the next time difficulty comes.*

*Why do you think experiencing difficulty teaches us obedience? How has hardship deepened your understanding of the Bible or obedience to it?*

# *WHAT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY?*

## **3. REACH OUT TO OTHERS WITH THE COMFORT WE'VE RECEIVED**

*Job 2:11-13* – Job's friends came and comforted him.

**Many think that when God comforts us, our troubles should go away. But if that were always so, people would turn to God only out of a desire to be relieved of pain and not out of love for him. We must understand that being comforted can also mean receiving strength, encouragement, and hope to deal with our troubles. The more we suffer the more comfort God gives us**

- ***2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, [4] who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.***

***According to this passage, what does any type of suffering eventually equip a believer to do? How does this verse's wisdom contrast with human ideas about the qualifications needed to comfort others?***

# Life of A Believer

Problems  
Challenges  
Difficulties



Problems  
Challenges  
Difficulties

# Life of an Unbeliever

Joy



Joy

# Conclusion

- **As long** as we live in a fallen world, we will experience heartache and pain.
- **God is still in control**, and allow Him to comfort you
- **Expect the Father** to use you in the future to minister to others who are hurting
- **Pray that you** would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading for opportunities where you are needed to give comfort to others just as our loving, heavenly Father has comforted you.
- **Pray that you** would have the compassion and wisdom as you comfort them.