

WHY DOES IT HURT SO MUCH?

Series: Paul Gets Personal

Text: 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

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In this letter to the Corinthians Paul opens his heart and shares his deepest joys and sorrows. It shows that Christians are human and must be honest in expressing their feelings. Two key words in 2 Corinthians are *comfort* and *affliction*. We see them both as this letter begins.

Affliction: (1:8; 7:5; 2:4; 8:2; 4:8-9; 5:2; 6:4-5; 10; 11; 12:7)

We learn that God is: (v. 3)

- Blessed
- Father of mercies
- God of all comfort

Comfort: (*parakaleo*)

1. You suffer because that is the way you D_____ what God can do. (vv. 4-5)
2. You suffer so that you might D_____ God's provision in your life to others. (vv. 6-7)
3. You suffer so God can D_____ your stubborn self-will that insists on trying to work it all out on your own. (vv. 8-10)
4. You suffer to help you D_____ with others for encouragement. (v. 11)