GOD’S COMFORT

2 Corinthians 1:1–2:11

Key Verses: 1:3,4

1. What are Paul’s opening greetings, and what can we learn from this? (1:1,2) Read verse 3. For what does Paul praise God? Why do we need to know this about God? Read verse 4. What is the purpose of God’s comfort in our lives, and what does this mean to you?
2. What does it mean to “share abundantly” in Christ’s sufferings? (5–7) Why is this the way “our comfort abounds through Christ”? How does Paul apply this to the Corinthians, and what can we learn from him here? (6,7) How does he describe his experience in Asia? (8,9a; cf. Ac19:23–34) Why did he tell them about this? (9b–11)
3. What does Paul say about his conduct? (12,13a) What is his hope? (13b,14) How did he change his travel plans? (15,16; cf. 1Co16:5–8) Why does he have to defend this? (17)
4. What does he say about God and about the message he preached, and why? (18–20) What else does God do for us, and how does this comfort us? (21,22)
5. Why did Paul not return to Corinth? (1:23–2:2) Why did he write to them instead? (3,4) What seems to have happened during his visit? (5) What does he tell the Corinthians to do now, and why? (6–8) What was his other intention in writing? (9) What else does he emphasize, and why? (10,11)