Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in all Achaia: **2**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **3**Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, **4**who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. **5**For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ. **6**Now if we are afflicted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation. **7**And our hope for you *is* steadfast, because we know that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also *you will partake* of the consolation. **8**For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. **9**Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, **10**who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver *us,* **11**you also helping together in prayer for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift *granted* to us through many.

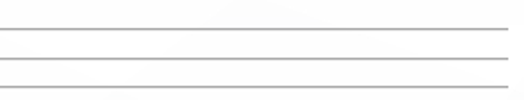
**1. GOD IS THE SOURCE OF ALL COMFORT (v. 3-4)**

**Summary:**  
God, the "Father of mercies," comforts us in our trials so that we can share that same comfort with others. Our experiences of God's care equip us to empathize with others in their struggles.



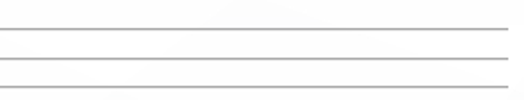
**2. SUFFERING HAS PURPOSE (v. 5-7)**

**Summary:**  
Believers share in both Christ’s sufferings and His comfort. Trials deepen our faith and bond us with others as we walk through challenges together and encourage one another.

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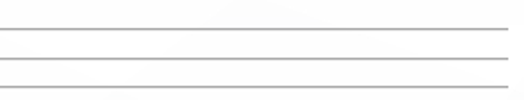
**3. RELIANCE ON GOD, NOT OURSELVES (v. 8-9)**

**Summary:**  
Paul's hardships taught him not to rely on his own strength but on God, who has the power to raise the dead. Trials remind us of our dependence on God’s limitless power.

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**4. THE POWER OF PRAYER (v. 10-11)**

**Summary:**  
Paul attributes his deliverance to the prayers of the Corinthians and emphasizes the value of intercession. Prayer unites believers and invites God's intervention in our lives.

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