9—Comfort for Caregivers

3/12/22

INTRO:

1. **→** 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

3 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 receive from God.

- → 5 For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. 6 If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer.
- → 7 And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.
- II. Grk (paráklesis) calling alongside

BODY:

I. Health in Caregiving

6 If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation

- A. We must not wait for them to be fixed before we have joy.
 - 1) **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
 - 2) You cannot own what is not your fault:
 - a) You did not create the problem
 - b) You cannot always fix the problem
 - c) But you can do what you can to help

- B. We can only help others if we take care of ourselves.
 - 1) 1 Thessalonians 5:14

And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

2) EVERYBODY NEEDS A NIGHT OUT

II. Hope in Caregiving.

6 if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance

- A. We can help better if we take the time to be educated.
 - 1) Colossians 1:10-11

Bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience.

- 2) HAVING DATE LUNCHES AT EDWARDS
- B. There is a lot we can learn from others in similar situations.
 - 1) **Romans 15:14**

I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

2) GETTING TOGETHER WITH OTHER PASTORS

III. Humanity in Caregiving

5 For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ

- A. <u>It takes a human to help another human.</u>
 - 1) **Hebrews 2:17**

For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God.

2) THE JUDGE—FIXING THE SINK

- B. Jesus stands by us so we can stand by others.
 - 1) **John 14:16**

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever. (KJV)

2) THE PARAKLEYTOS

OTHER SCRIPTURES:

Proverbs 18:24

One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2 Corinthians 6:4-7

Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses . . . sleepless nights and hunger; 6 in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love.

James 1:27

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.