

God of All Comfort

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God of All Comfort

2 Corinthians 1:3–4 ESV

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Psalms 34:18 ESV

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Isaiah 66:13 NIV

As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you.

1. God is the source of all true comfort, and He comforts us by giving us Himself.

2 Corinthians 1:3 ESV

...who comforts us in all our affliction.

Romans 8:29-30 NLT

For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son. So that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

2. The purpose of God's comfort isn't always to remove our affliction but to strengthen us so we can endure and be transformed through it.

2 Corinthians 1:4 ESV

...so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Romans 12:15 ESV

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Matthew 11:28 ESV

Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

John 14:15–16 AMP

If you [really] love Me, you will keep and obey My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengtheners, Standby), to be with you forever.

3. God comforts us so that we can be a source of comfort to others in their affliction.

God Comforts Us:

- **When we are experiencing pain:**
Psalm 34:18 (NLT)
“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.”
This verse reminds us that God is near us when we hurt deeply.
- **When we are suffering:**
2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NLT)
“All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others.”
God doesn't just comfort us; He equips us to help others in their suffering too.
- **When we are experiencing sorrow:**
Matthew 5:4 (NLT)
“God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”
Jesus promises comfort for those who are mourning.
- **When we experience loss:**
Revelation 21:4 (NLT)
“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.”
One day, God's comfort will bring perfect healing and no more tears.
- **When we are hopeless and discouraged:**
Isaiah 41:10 (NLT)
“Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”
God's presence and strength are assurance when confused or hopeless.
- **When we are grieving:**
1 Thessalonians 4:13 (NLT)
“And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope.”
Our grief is filled with hope because of the resurrection and eternal life in Christ.
- **When we are crushed:**
Psalm 55:22 (NLT)
“Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you. He will not permit the godly to slip and fall.”
Trusting God with our burdens helps us stand when we're crushed.
- **When we are broken-hearted:**
Psalm 147:3 (NLT)
“He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.”
God heals emotional wounds and restores hope.
- **When we are afraid:**
Joshua 1:9 (NLT)
“This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For

the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

God's presence dispels fear.

- **When we are in times of trouble:**

Nahum 1:7 (NLT)

“The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.”

- **When we are in the wilderness:**

Deuteronomy 8:2-3 (NLT)

“Remember how the Lord your God led you through the wilderness for these forty years, humbling you and testing you to prove your character, and to see whether or not you would obey his commandments. Yes, he humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna, a food previously unknown to you and your ancestors. He did it to teach you that people do not live by bread alone; they must learn to rely on every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.”

- **When we are lost:**

Psalms 23:3-4 (NLT)

“He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.”

- **When we want to give up:**

Isaiah 40:29-31 (NLT)

“He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Even youths will become faint and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”

- **When we are alone:**

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NLT)

“So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you.”

- **When we feel overwhelmed or burdened:**

Matthew 11:28-30 (NLT)

“Come to me, all you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”

Jesus invites us to find comfort and rest in Him when we are burdened.

- **When we face guilt or condemnation:**

Romans 8:1 (NLT)

“So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.”

Because of Jesus’ sacrifice, we are forgiven and free from guilt.

- **When we are weary in our walk of faith:**

Isaiah 40:28 (NLT)

“Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weary or faint. No one can measure the depths of his understanding.”

God renews our strength when we’re tired from trusting and following Him.

- **When we are confused about God's plan:**

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which way to take.”

Trusting God opens the way for His guidance and comfort in uncertain times.

- **During times of spiritual dryness or distance from God:**

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT)

“The loyal love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.”

God’s mercy and love are new every day, even when we feel distant from Him.

- **When we are facing uncertainty about the future:**

Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”

Small Group Guide: God of All Comfort

Opening Question

How have you experienced God's comfort in a difficult season? Share an example.

God is more than just a giver of comfort — He is comfort itself. His very presence in our lives is the source of true comfort. Psalm 34:18 reminds us that “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.” God's comfort isn't distant or superficial but deeply personal — He comes close to us when we are hurting.

God's comfort flows from His heart because He actually gives us Himself. When Jesus came into our world, He demonstrated God's willingness to inhabit our pain — making God with us (Immanuel). Isaiah 66:13 captures this beautifully: “As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you”. Imagine a parent holding a hurting child — the pain might not be immediately taken away, but their presence transforms the experience of suffering.

Importantly, God's comfort isn't limited to easing pain temporarily but is designed to strengthen us so we can endure, be transformed, and eventually comfort others. Paul pointed out that God comforts us “in all our affliction” — not after we've endured it, but through it. His comfort is ongoing, tailored to every situation in our lives — whether we are grieving, afraid, overwhelmed, or feeling isolated.

The Holy Spirit plays a vital role here. He is the ongoing presence of God's comfort within us, helping us trust, persevere, and ultimately become channels of His grace to others. When we experience His comfort, it gives us stories of hope and healing that we can share, encouraging others to find their refuge in God too.

Remember, the purpose of God's comfort is not only for our benefit but to empower us to comfort others, creating a divine chain of healing that extends across generations. The Bible assures us that God is near in every trouble and will never abandon those who trust in Him.

For Discussion:

1. Reflect on a moment when God's comfort helped you persevere through a hardship. How did His presence change your perspective or feelings?
2. How can you actively be a source of comfort to others who are hurting? What practical steps can you take to show God's love in their pain?
3. Sometimes we feel distant from God's comfort or wonder why our prayers aren't answered as we hope. How can trusting His presence and promises in faith help us experience His comfort even in difficult circumstances?