

MESSAGE 1: HOW WE'RE GETTING THROUGH Parts 1-3

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others with the same comfort that we've received from God.

For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows. If we're distressed, it's for your salvation; and if we're comforted, it's for your comfort...

OUR HOPE for you IS FIRM, BECAUSE WE KNOW that just as you've shared in our sufferings, so also you will share in our comfort.

We don't want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the hardships we've suffered... We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life itself. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death.

But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He HAS delivered us... and we've set our hope on him that he WILL CONTINUE to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks to God for the gracious favor granted to us in answer to your many prayers." 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

What you ______ is what gets you through.

1. Life doesn't make sense, but we can have PEACE

BECAUSE WE KNOW

GOD PROMISES:

"When you go through deep waters, I will be with you! When you pass through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned up; it will NOT consume you!" Isaiah 43:2

"I will never leave you and I will NEVER abandon you." Hebrews 13:5

"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast or the child she has born? Even if that were possible, I will never forget you! Look, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands!" Isaiah 49:15

2. Everything on earth is broken, but we can have JOY

BECAUSE WE KNOW

"The earth suffers for the sins of its people, for they have twisted the instructions of God, violated his laws, and broken his covenant. Therefore... the earth has broken down and has utterly collapsed. Everything is lost, abandoned, and confused." Isaiah 24:5 +19

"BUT WE KNOW that in all things God works for the GOOD of those who love him, and have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

"We can have JOY even in our troubles BECAUSE WE KNOW that these troubles produce endurance. And endurance produces character, and character produces hope. And this hope will not disappoint us, because God has poured his love to fill our hearts." Romans 5:3-5

3. Life is a battle, but we can have HOPE

BECAUSE WE KNOW

"We often suffer, but we're never crushed. Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us, and when we are knocked down, we get up again... BECAUSE WE KNOW God raised the Lord back to life. And just as he raised Jesus, he will also raise us back to life, and will bring us into his presence together." 2 Corinthians 4:8-9, 14

"Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness but they will be raised in strength!" 1 Corinthians 15:43

"So we don't focus on the troubles we see right now; instead we look forward to what we don't see yet. For the troubles we see now are temporary, but the joys to come will last forever." 2 Corinthians 4:18

"Then God will wipe every tear from their eyes. And there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things will pass away." Revelation 21:4