

**Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Series: **“Our Great Need for Christian Community”**

Message: **“Supporting Each Other in Tough Times”**

Sermon Text: **2 Corinthians 1:3-11(NIV)**; Old Testament Text: **Psalms 34:15-22**; Gospel Text: **Luke 3:10-14**. Read **2 Corinthians 1:3-11(NIV)** as you listen to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

1. Read **2 Corinthians 1:3-4**. Why should we be confident that we will always have the means to comfort others in their troubles?
2. Read **2 Corinthians 1:5**. Why is our suffering for Christ always more than worth what it has cost us?
3. Read **2 Corinthians 1:6**. As brothers and sisters in Christ, what is Paul trying to let the Corinthians know?
4. Read **2 Corinthians 1:7**. Why is Paul’s hope firm that the Corinthians will know comfort in their times of trouble?
5. Read **2 Corinthians 1:8**. Why do you think Paul was so brutally honest in sharing with the Corinthians the troubles he and his companions faced in the province of Asia?



### **Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting**

- I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 34:15-22** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
  1. Read **Ps. 34:15-16**. How does God's treatment of the righteous differ from His treatment of the wicked?
  2. Read **Ps. 34:17**. How have you experienced the truth of this verse in your own life?
  3. Read **Ps. 34:18**. When you read this verse, how does it make you feel?
  4. Read **Ps. 34:19**. How has the Lord enabled you to deal with afflictions in your life?
  5. **Ps. 34:20** is a messianic prophecy. What is it proclaiming about Jesus?
  6. Read **Ps. 34:21 & 22**. How does God's treatment of the righteous differ from His treatment of the wicked?
  
- II. Next read **Luke 3:10-14**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
  1. After reading this passage, how would you sum up John the Baptist's instructions?
  2. Considering that John the Baptist evoked questions from both tax collectors and soldiers, what do you think was happening to the people that were there that day?
  3. Why were questions from these two groups of people somewhat unexpected?
  4. What do John the Baptist's answers to their questions reveal about their normal ways of conducting themselves?
  5. Can you think of times in which you came under such strong conviction from the Lord that you made radical changes in your own life?
  
- III. Read **2 Corinthians 1:3-11**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
  1. Read **2 Corinthians 1:3-4**. Why should we be confident that we will always have the means to comfort others in their troubles?
  2. Read **2 Corinthians 1:5**. Why is our suffering for Christ always more than worth what it has cost us?
  3. Read **2 Corinthians 1:6**. As brothers and sisters in Christ, what is Paul trying to let the Corinthians know?

4. Read **2 Corinthians 1:7**. Why is Paul's hope firm that the Corinthians will know comfort in their times of trouble?
5. Read **2 Corinthians 1:8**. Why do you think Paul was so brutally honest in sharing with the Corinthians the troubles he and his companions faced in the province of Asia?
6. Read **2 Corinthians 1:9**. As fairly new believers in Christ, do you think the Corinthians would have been comforted by Paul's words or alarmed? Explain.
7. Read **2 Corinthians 1:10-11**. Why is Paul so confident that God will deliver him in times of peril?
8. In what ways does Paul tell the Corinthians they have been a part of God's deliverance for him?
9. What else does Paul believe will happen because of God's faithful deliverance and the Corinthians' faithful prayers?