

**Dig Deeper @Home – “Real and Authentic”**  
**Complement to lesson on 4/7/24 – “The Proper Reliance”**

**ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered**

1. What food is your biggest weakness?
2. Share a time when you had to rely on someone else. What was this like for you?

**MEMORIZE – 2 Corinthians 12: 9-10**

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**READ – 2 Corinthians 1**

**Questions to ponder/discuss:**

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
  - a. What did the Holy Spirit cause to “jump off the page” as you read?
  - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
  - c. What are the verses revealing about God? About people?  
In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. What is the significance of 2 Corinthians 1:20?
  - a. List as many promises of God as you can
  - b. Then list how this promise finds it yes in Christ.
  - c. How are you tempted to find the yes of this promise in something other than Christ?
3. What does it mean that God has put his seal on us?
  - a. What is the seal?
  - b. How does understanding a seal on a letter impact the understanding of this verse?
    - i. Hint: who has authority to open a seal?

## **EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – Receiving and Sharing God’s Comfort**

“But when the **Helper** comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.” (John 15: 26-27)

Parakletos, translated “Helper”, is a Greek word found only five times in the whole of the Bible, and four of them are in this one teaching, when Jesus, on his last night before His crucifixion, repeatedly uses this title in reference to the Holy Spirit. Parakletos, translated most literally, means “one called alongside to help”. Today in the Mediterranean, this word can still be used in reference to a rescue boat that finds a vessel lost in desperation, and leads frantic passengers back to safe harbor. The Holy Spirit is the one called alongside to help, who comes and finds me when I’m lost, alone, in desperation, and draws me back to the heart of the Father.

Yielding Prayer: Holy Spirit, I bring before You now the ways I feel lost. I invite you to draw alongside me, pulling me into the heart of the Father. Holy Spirit, come and find me. (all of the above was taken from Lectio 365 app from April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024)

Take time right now bring the areas you feel lost, desperate, hopeless to the Holy Spirit. Where do you need comfort right now? Invite the Holy Spirit to fill you with His comfort. Then ask if there is anyone in your life who you can share this comfort with this coming week.

**SING** (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

God I Look to You - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3u3ZG8ztGEI>

Behold Him - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izK4kl\\_wmA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izK4kl_wmA)

I Need Thee Every Hour - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qJ4jIKeT4w>

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJ5cLiCCOao>

## **PRAY**

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

### **Sending prayer based on the message:**

“Creator God, who formed humanity from the dust, breathe in me again. Revive me and sanctify me by the power of your Holy Spirit. Set my heart on fire with the good news of the gospel.” – Lectio 365