



Lemoore church of Christ

March 29,
2020

The Comfort of God by: Dan Jenkins

Who has not in their lifetime had those dark and trying periods when hope was almost gone? What congregation has not experienced anxiety as turmoil developed between brethren? Evidently, the church at Rome was dealing with all kinds of problems—there were false teachers seeking to Judaize the Gentiles by demanding that they must be circumcised to enter heaven. There was also strife between brothers where the stronger brothers had little compassion for those who were weaker.

How did God address such turmoil? When Paul gets to the fifteen chapter of Romans he utters this prayer. "May the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like minded toward one another...that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (15:5-6). How did Paul see that turmoil coming to an end? He turned to God—the One who gives both comfort and patient endurance.

This is where true comfort is found. Paul described God as the God of all comfort, and then said that He "...comforts us in all our troubles (2 Cor. 1:5-6). Pay special attention to that three-letter word in this passage. God is not just the One who sometimes comforts us in certain situations—He is the God of *all* comfort in *all* our trials.

How does God give us comfort? Look again at Romans chapter fifteen. It is in verse five where God is described as the God of comfort and patience. Look at verse four. "For whatsoever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

To whom do we turn for comfort? It is to God. To where do we turn? It is the Scriptures the God of comfort has given us. You have experienced this in those dark times when you walked through deep valleys, like the valley of the shadow of death. Your soul found relief at such times, and you sang the song given by David. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me" (Psa. 23:3). You sang the psalm and the words from the God of all comfort lifted your soul.

It is not just in those Old Testament passages where comfort is found. When those in Thessalonica were concerned about those brethren who had died, the God of comfort gave His word to them and then added, "Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:18).

So, the next time clouds arise and darkness prevails, pick up your Bible. Read the comforting words from the God of all comfort. Meditate on what He says to you, and these words of comfort will bring hope in the midst of the deepest despair.

Five Minutes with God: This week:

Sunday	Day 89	Matthew 11:7-15
Monday	Day 90	Matthew 11:16-19
Tuesday	Day 91	Luke 7:36-50
Wednesday	Day 92	Matthew 12:22-30
Thursday	Day 93	Matthew 12:31-32
Friday	Day 94	Matthew 12:33-37
Saturday	Day 95	Matthew 12:38-42

*You have looked deep into my heart,
Lord, and you know all about me.
You know when I am resting and
when I am working, and from heaven
you discover my thoughts. You
notice everything I do and everywhere
I go. Before I even speak a word, you
know what I will say, and with your
powerful arm you protect me from
every side. Psalm 139:1-5*

Prayer List:

Events list will return to the bulletin when our shelter in place is lifted.

The family of Glen Fraley as he has passed away.

Bodie, friend of Bailey Radcliff, diagnosed with 2 brain tumors.

Dennis Chamberlain has spent 3 days in the hospital but is recovering at home

Family of Glenn Fraley – Glenn passed away Tuesday morning. Please contact Wilma Cole or Denise Dean for Becky's address.

Jeff McCord temporarily off work during COVID

Ken and Darla McCord moving to Tenn. In April

Family of Wyland Gomes 9 year recently killed.

Randy McCord recovering from procedure that provided pain relief.

Gary Radcliff, Garth's father, is currently cancer free but may have radiation again in the future.

Kim Cargill, Stephanie Tischmacher's stepmom finished treatment – getting stronger

Marlon Raygoza that he gets the supervision he needs to make positive changes in his life.

Linda Frye, Cancer

Bill Fox, co-worker of Frank Baldwin, blood clots in his legs but has returned to work.

Angie and Tito Cano-no active cancer was found in PET scan-on maintenance meds

Alexis Raygoza is recovering from health issues.

Bart Massey, friend of Dixie Blair, stage 4 stomach cancer

Doug Standridge having tests to discover source of infection

Casey Case Jr ongoing oncology treatment

Our Mission Work:

- First Responders including many of our members/family:
 - Nicole McCord Director of pre-natal building
 - Katelyn McCord working in the ER
 - Zeb Reid Deputy Sheriff in Tulare County
 - Christy Reid working in Pharmacy
- Preachers in Nicaragua
- Agape Village
- Crossover Ministry
- City of Children
- Manuelito's Children's Home
- Church of Christ Disaster relief Fund
- World Christian Broadcasting