

THEME- AFLICTION AND CONSOLATION: Our double reality.

2 Corinthians 4:8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair;
9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Text: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

I. Our grief is REAL.

1. It is REAL for everyone.
2. It affects us all.
3. We all have a reaction.

II. Our consolation is POSSIBLE.

1. Through FAITH.
2. For our family.
3. For some community.

III. For a MAJOR purpose.

1. When we look at GOD first.
2. When I believe in the eternal.
3. When I think of others.

Questions for personal application:

- a) How do I understand the biblical passage?
- b) How do I relate to it?
- c) What is my focus at this time, my distress or my faith?
- d) When was the last time I was comforted?
- e) Has my pain ever comforted others?