

# Storms

HOW TO EXPERIENCE GOD WHEN LIFE HURTS

## Call On People While We Are In The Storm

### 1. I am a part of the body, but **WE are** the body. (1 Cor. 12:21-27)

<sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, <sup>24</sup>while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup>If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. <sup>27</sup>Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. **1 Corinthians 12:21-27**

“The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don’t, the parts we see and the parts we don’t. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.” **1 Corinthians 12:25-26 MSG**

## 2. Jesus prayed for us to have JOY through our UNITY.

<sup>20</sup> “I am not asking on behalf of these alone, but also for those who believe in Me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one; just as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. <sup>22</sup> The glory which You have given Me I also have given to them, **so that** they may be one, just as We are one; <sup>23</sup> I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, **so that** the world may know that You sent Me, and You loved them, just as You loved Me. **John 17:20-22**

**Jesus prayed for our unity**

**We are perfected in our unity**

**Our unity introduces people to Jesus**

**Our unity a full measure of joy**

<sup>13</sup> “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them

## 3. The enemy wants us to be alone.

<sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. **1 Peter 5:8**

<sup>35</sup> That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side.” <sup>36</sup> Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. **There were also other boats with him. Mark 4:35-36**

<sup>10</sup> The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it and is safe. **Proverbs 19:30**

## 4. The purpose of our suffering is for OTHERS.

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts **us** in all **our** troubles, so

that **we** can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort **we** ourselves receive from God. <sup>5</sup> For just as **we** share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also **our** comfort abounds through Christ. <sup>6</sup> If **we** are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if **we** are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings **we** suffer. <sup>7</sup> And **our** hope for you is firm, because **we** know that just as you share in **our** sufferings, so also you share in **our** comfort. **2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

**2** Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, **Philippians 2:1-3**