



Going Deeper Questions
Yes and Amen
Angie Giancola

Sermon Scripture Passage

2 Corinthians 1:1-11, 20-22

Fun icebreaker question

What hobbies or extracurricular activities were you involved in as a kid?

Discipleship Cycle: Debrief & Interpret

Did anyone do the "Respond Actively" exercise last week? What did you learn about God and yourself through that experience?

Quick Review: What stood out to you from this week's passage?

Looking back at your notes from this week's passage and sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

My Story

- 1) This morning's sermon addressed grief and comfort. How do we typically define the word "comfort"? How did the sermon reframe that definition for you?
 - 2) How can we tell the difference in our lives between true godly comfort and numbing or indulging? What does that look like for you?
 - 3) As humans (and often, especially as Christian humans), we try to remove
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others' pain (like an anesthesiologist), rather than standing next to people in the pain and saying "push" (like a midwife). What do you think is behind that tendency? How is God more like a midwife than an anesthesiologist? *Note: anesthesiology is incredibly helpful in the medical world but possibly less so in the spiritual world!

Dive Deeper

- 1) How have you experienced the comfort of God in your life? How can you identify with the suffering of Jesus in your places of pain and grief?
 - 2) During the sermon, Rev. Angie said, "All the promises of God are 'Yes' in Christ." Where have you seen God's "Yes" in your life?
 - 3) Rev. Angie encouraged us to consider how God might empower us to encourage those around us. She said, "Consider the times you have waded through your own storm. Who has shown up for you? How did they make you feel seen, loved, and valued, even if the rains kept coming. Take note of what helped you feel strong, encouraged, and hopeful? And then consider those around you. Do you know someone experiencing their own storm?" How would you answer those questions?
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Discipleship Cycle: Respond Actively

Who is someone you can reach out to this week with a word or act of true, Holy Spirit comfort?

A special question for couples and families

As parents, it can be easy to want to take away any pain our children might feel, or shield them from the possibility of pain. What's behind that? What are the consequences for our kids when we approach their pain that way? When our children face life's challenges, how can we comfort them with God's comfort instead of simply taking away their pain? What are the promises in that approach?
