**2 Corinthians Overview and 1:1-11 Study Guide:**

**Overview and Introduction**

Overview:

* Read Acts 18 and consider the following questions:

1. What is Paul’s history with the church in Corinth? How did he first meet them?
2. How long does Paul stay in Corinth? What does that tell us about the relationship Paul has with the church there?

Review:

1. In 1 Corinthians we discussed the city of Corinth. What do we know about the culture/values of the city and how did that impact the church?
2. What are some of the issues that Paul addresses in 1 Corinthians? How does Paul call them to live and why? (1 Corinthians 15)

Chapter 1: 1-11

* Read 2 Corinthians 1-11 and mark:
* Words to always mark: Any reference to God, Jesus, Holy Spirit
* Words referring to:

-Suffering or Affliction

-Comfort

-Share

-Deliver

1. Who is writing the letter and who are the recipients? What does the author say about himself? What does he say about the recipients?
2. Why does Paul “bless” or praise God? (v. 3-4)
3. What is to be our response to God’s comfort? (v. 4) How are we enabled to comfort others? (v. 4)
4. Consider: What are Christ’s sufferings? What does it mean that we share in them? (v. 5)
5. In what ways do Paul’s afflictions bring the Corinthians comfort? (v. 6-7)
6. Describe Paul’s sufferings in Asia. How did they affect Paul? (v. 8-9a)
7. What did Paul’s trials drive him to do? (v. 9b-10)
8. What does Paul say will be the result of the Corinthians praying for him? (v. 11)

Thought to consider:

Paul stated he “despaired of life itself” in Asia. How then was God the God of all comfort during that time when Paul didn’t *seem* very comforted? How do you think Paul would define comfort?