

Words of Comfort

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4 ctivity

Romans 15:4 says, "Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." God's Word offers comfort and encouragement. Write down one difficult situation you've faced recently.

iblical Insight

Isaiah 66:13 speaks of a mother comforting her child and God comforting His people. The prophet Isaiah spoke to a population in need of comforting. Their rebellion and unfaithfulness toward God resulted in discipline. In times of pain and struggle, the touch and care of a mother brings immediate relief. This was the relief spoken of here in Isaiah. Most people can understand it when God illustrates His love as the love of a parent.

Composition

Read Romans 15:4, then read each negative situation below. Write the reference of the Bible verse(s) that best offers the believer comfort in each particular situation. Choose from the verses listed below.

Psalm 23:4 Psalm 34:18
Isaiah 41:10 Isaiah 49:15
Matthew 19:29 Philippians 4

 Matthew 19:29
 Philippians 4:19

 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18
 1 Peter 4:12–14

_ Josh's mother just abandoned the family.

Cody's best friend (a Christian) was killed in a car accident.

Sarah just moved and feels all alone at her new school.

Jason is struggling with his family's poverty.

Micah is dying of leukemia.

Rance is trying to be a Christian witness but is ridiculed.

Shayna's boyfriend dumped her for her best friend.

Tanique's family practically disowns her because she became a Christian.

iscussion

The apostle Paul, who himself endured many difficulties, spoke of the experience of these trials in 2 Corinthians 1:3–7. In this passage he spoke of God the Father as the source of comfort in our trials. According to 2 Corinthians 1:4, what is a special benefit of God's comfort? During the group discussion, express your understanding of this passage.

valuation

What comfort have you needed lately?