


3 You need community to flourish, grow But

"the destruction of intimate community has been at our own hands. It has corresponded to our own hierarchy of values." Jean Vanier — Examples

 2 Corinthians challenges our values w. New core value ▶ Christian your high calling + greatest good is to be the Church of God bound together by Grace of Jesus through the Ministry of the Gospel "Melodic Line"
"Church of Θ that is at Corinth" Church?

1. Paul's authority as an Apostle + Ministry of Gospel is to establish + build the church (1:1, 8ff) is opposed by False Apostles (Chp 10+11)
2. Church in Greek "gathering of people, official assembly", in LXX "the assembly of Θ's people in Θ's presence to hear Θ's Word"
3. Church of Θ: created + kept by Θ (1:21-22) for glory of Θ The Church is for Θ, not you!
4. Church is particular "in Corinth" + global Achaia, set apart to be saints, Θ's family "Our Father"

⇒ Church of Θ confronts your Hierarchy of Values!

How shall we then Live?

- ① Comfort each other w. comfort your Father has given you

Pattern

God's Nature
Father of Mercies
God of all Comfort

Share in
God's Comfort

Comforts us in
our affliction,
suffering 17x

Comfort those
in Affliction
w. God's comfort

How do we become this kind of Community?

Erik = We are combatting the human condition.

We are hurting, suffering + trying to comfort ourselves. Look at how much \$ we're spending on comfort, dull pain on movie, nice dinner, video game, opioids, drink, etc. When asked, we're really quick to deny pain exists ▶ comfort serves an idol

1. Receive Father's comfort vs. False Idols
2. Assume your brothers/sisters are suffering
Ruth Van Reeken, Everyone needs comfort
3. Pro-actively move towards them w. God's comfort

② Carry out Committed Gospel Ministry *Vital, like
Sineus between Church + Gospel*

☰☰ Paul's Apostolic Ministry

✦ Gospel Character: suffering, trust, simplicity,
Godly sincerity *Robert Murray McCheyne: Holiness*

✦ Gospel Proclamation: Paul's defense (*vs. 15-24*) rises
to proclamation of Jesus *vs. 19ff*

➔ My pastoral calling + your expectation =
Holiness of Character + Proclamation of Jesus
Otto + Long Line of faithful Pastors

③ Exalt + Stand Firm (*v. 24*) in Gospel of Jesus
For all of His Promises find their YES in Him

conditional promises	Examples	YES IN JESUS
unconditional promises	Examples	

What a Comfort for the Saint... Apply