

S.O.H.L.

(7/5/10)

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

When We Lose A Loved One

Imagine one of your friends losing a loved one and you have not experience the same lost they have. What would you say to them? What would you do? Is it wise to say anything? Comfort (being there for them) is a start. Sometimes it is best to just listen and allow them to release their emotions. The best way to speak on such a matter is to allow Christ to speak through you, and sometimes people will not receive the words of comfort that our Lord is speaking. But He knows best. The following are words of comfort from Christ through the Apostle Paul.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-11 NLT - (3) All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of **all comfort**. (4) He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. (5) For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. (6) Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer. (7) We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us. (8) We think you ought to know, dear brothers and sisters, about the trouble we went through in the province of Asia. We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it. (9) In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead. (10) And he did rescue us from mortal danger, and he will rescue us again. We have placed our confidence in him, and he will continue to rescue us. (11) And you are helping us by praying for us. Then many people will give thanks because God has graciously answered so many prayers for our safety.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 NLT - (13) And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. (14) For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. (15) We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. (16) For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. (17) Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. (18) So encourage each other with these words.

SCRIPTURE READING

2 CORINTHIANS 5:1

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.

July 1, 2010

