

https://youtu.be/uWKf0al_0o

I will be a witness who shares with others the comfort that I myself have received from God through Jesus Christ.

Video Key Points:

- ***This week of the CODE continues with the idea from last week that we have a role in the work of the Kingdom and expands on the idea that God uses ordinary people, not just pastors and other paid professionals, to bear witness to Christ.***
- The five devotions for this week combine together two related ideas.
- The first is from 2 Corinthians 1:3-6 – which 3 out of the 5 devotion days use as its main text. As we have been comforted by the Lord in our hardships and struggles so we are then enabled to comfort and walk alongside others in their similar struggles. You can see this dynamic happening all the time. I am much more inclined to listen to someone who has been through tough times and has held onto their faith, or found faith in Christ from it, than I would be someone who can only speak in general on a topic. When you think about it the implications of this are amazing. It means that our sufferings end up having value in ways that we could not imagine. Our past struggles matter when we offer ourselves to the Lord. Therefore, each of us can have a unique impact in the kingdom as we share with others our story and point people to the goodness of Christ
- The other passage that keys in on that is that of the blind man in John 9 who is healed by Christ. That man can testify to what Christ has done in his life. He can bear witness to the power and goodness of the Lord without being an expert in the Bible or able to answer every question. He can confidently declare: One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see. The truth is that all of us can do the same. We can bear witness to what Christ has done in our lives. We can give the reason for which we have put our hope in Him and no other. Being a disciple means being willing to bear witness to Christ, and learning how our story can point others to Jesus.
- Emma gave a great example at church yesterday – Sunday November 30th – when she shared her story of what she faced before Christ and how she came to see that she could trust her life to Christ.

Questions for Understanding:

- Why is it important to believe that you can play a part in sharing the good news of Jesus? When have you had the chance to share the story of how or why you put your faith in Christ?
- When has the Lord carried you through difficult times? Is that a story you can share to encourage others? Is there someone who is going through similar difficulties that you can come alongside and encourage?

Life Questions:

- Which of the 5 devotional days spoke most to you this week?
- What is happening in your life right now that is leading you to rely on the Lord and the comfort of His Presence?
- Do you have – or could you search and find – a verse or a psalm that you can hold onto when times are tough? (e.g. Isaiah 41:10, John 16:33, Psalm 62 or 42)

Closing in Prayer: Use one of the Devotion prayers or Pray using your own Words