

October 14, 2026

The Chatter

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The Chatter

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6X71sXagUY>

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

II CORINTHIANS 1:3-4

As the first streams of daylight slipped through my window, I heard the chatter of a chipmunk outside.

Normally, I'm not too happy to find one of these pesky creatures on my front porch. But this morning, I was grateful for the familiar sounds of home.

I had just been released from the hospital after experiencing excruciating back pain caused by a bulging disc pinching a nerve. As I listened to the chipmunk, a question crossed my mind: What's worse—emotional pain or physical pain?

Deciding to leave the question to Google, I searched for an answer. I wasn't surprised to learn emotional pain can have a profound and lasting impact on our lives. While physical pain often prompts us to seek immediate relief, we may be slower to recognize or address the wounds of the heart.

Earlier this week, during our Women's Bible Study, the chatter of emotional pain filled the room. Heartaches, fears, and concerns were laid bare, as transparently as a piece of glass. Each fragile heart was handled with tenderness, compassion, and prayer.

It was a beautiful reminder, whether our pain is physical or emotional, God meets us in the middle of it. Second Corinthians 1:3-4 offers this comfort:

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”

God doesn’t promise we will never suffer. But He does promise to be with us in our suffering. He can strengthen us when we feel weak, comfort us when our hearts ache, and work through our pain to help us comfort others.

In 2 Corinthians 4:17-18, Paul reminds us that our troubles are temporary in light of the eternal glory awaiting us. This doesn’t mean our pain is insignificant or easy to endure. Rather, it reminds us that our present circumstances are not the end of our story.

John Waller’s song “While I’m Waiting” captures this beautifully: “And I am hopeful, I’m waiting on You, Lord. Though it is painful, but patiently I will wait.”

The song goes on to remind us waiting doesn’t mean doing nothing. We can continue to serve God, worship Him, and take each step in obedience, even when we don’t understand what He is doing.

Sometimes, we search for answers everywhere—asking Google, consulting others, and trying to figure out how to make the pain go away. Yet some answers don’t come through searching. They come through being still, trusting God, and allowing Him to meet us in our deepest places of hurt.

A CLOSING THOUGHT

Whether the chatter outside your window comes from a chipmunk or the chatter inside your heart comes from pain, remember that God hears you. You don’t have to silence your questions or pretend you’re okay. Bring your pain to Him, and let His comfort meet you right where you are.

When the pain is difficult to understand and the answers seem far away, may you find peace in knowing you are never waiting alone

Karen Good

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