

# Radical Hospitality

Lesson 5



## *Comforted to Comfort*



### *Focus Text*

**3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, **4** who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. **5** For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ. **II Corinthians 1:3–5.**



### *Target Objective*

Lesson 5 highlights how the Holy Spirit empowers believers to serve a hurting world. The church is not called to be a passive institution but an active vessel of God's comfort. In this lesson, you will learn how to embrace the church's role in bringing hope to others and how your personal experiences of God's comfort can equip you to minister to those in need.



# Lesson 5 Growth Work

## Group Discussion:

- Think about a time when God used someone else to comfort you in a difficult season. What can you learn from that experience as you pray and seek an open door to comfort others?
- Read Romans 12:4–5. How does the truth that we are all different members of the body reflect on our unique and varied ability to comfort and serve others?
- What do you think is the significance of the phrase “individually members of one another” (Romans 12:5)?

## Personal Practice:

- **Catalog Your Testimonies:** Write down specific ways the Holy Spirit has comforted you. It is vitally important for you to understand how God has comforted you as you prepare to comfort others. Find some passages of Scripture that convey the depth of what God revealed to you in that season. Pray that God would give you an opportunity to share with others.
- **Create a Toolkit:** Look back over your list of testimonies and try to gather resources like Bible verses, songs, or books that could benefit and help others in similar times of struggle. These “tools” might be ones that helped you or those you found after the fact.
- **Pray for Sensitivity:** Ask God to open your eyes to those in your workplace, church, or neighborhood who need the comfort that you have experienced personally. If God brings someone to mind:
  - Intentionally reach out with words of comfort.
  - Share how God has helped you in times of struggle.
  - Pray about sharing a resource that you included in your toolkit.

**NOTE:** *When we consider deep struggles and difficulties, it’s important to remember that ministry takes time. Be sensitive to how deeply you share and don’t try to overwhelm someone. A wise approach is to see how someone responds each step along the way. First see how they respond to your word of encouragement; then prayerfully and respectfully seek appropriate opportunities to serve them more.*