

# MTM Conference 2023 – Session #2

## “Comfort the Discouraged”

1 Thessalonians 5:14

Presented by  
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### Who are the Discouraged?

“The faint-hearted, who are ready to sink ‘without hope’ in afflictions and temptations.”<sup>1</sup>

### What is Comfort?

It’s **not** having all the answers or taking away the pain, but offering God’s comfort, wisdom and hope to the broken and hurting. (2 Corinthians 1:3-5)

### How do we Comfort?

Through presence rather than prescription.

[GK: *paraclete* – to come **alongside**] (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13)

- Highlighting the Scripture that gives language to the pain.
- Pointing to where comfort, wisdom, and hope come from – Christ!

*“God calls us to develop the competency to be parakaletic comforters who minister to people suffering under the gravity of grinding affliction. Comfort is a powerful word in English as well as Greek. In English, it highlights co-fortitude, the idea that we are fortified when we stand together; we are strengthened when others weep with us and grieve with us (Romans 12:15). **Shared sorrow is endurable sorrow.**” Bob Kellemen, Consider Your Counsel, pg. 30*

### Why should we Comfort?

Because grace and truth always work in tandem. (John 8:2-11)

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<sup>1</sup> Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown, [\*Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible\*](#), vol. 2 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 392.