
How would you respond to Paul's inner story?

2 Corinthians 1:8 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life.

⁹ Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

¹⁰ He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us,

¹¹ as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

Key: pg. 1: deep; Hearing; Pondering; stirring pg. 3: apply; project; person.

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Up

Redemptive Relating #5

February 22, 2015

**We exist to enjoy and share
the love and message of God with everyone.**

Drawing us up from _____ places.

Proverbs 20:5 The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out.

First steps: _____ someone's inner story.

James 1:19 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

Proverbs 18:13 If anyone gives answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.

Second steps: P _____, and S _____ up.

As people share their inner stories with you, their trials, difficulties, challenges, etc., how are we to respond in a way that moves their hearts UP, Godward?

Hebrews 10:24 and **let us consider** how to **stir up** one another to love and good works,
²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

"Consider" -

As your friend tells his inner story quietly ask yourself these questions:

- a. What is going on deeper in my friend?
- b. What do they wish would be different about their response to their challenge?
- c. Does my friend have someone who can share and shoulder this challenge with them?
- d. Does my friend need someone right now who is for them?
- e. What stirs in me, as my friend share his story?
- f. What does God seem to be shaping in my friend?
- g. About what are you more curious? What else would you like to know?

"Stir up" -

- a. What stirs in your friend as they share?
- b. What God-given desires do you see evidence of?

What not to do...(Job's "friends")

The low-hanging fruit: don't minimize; teach, correct too quickly.

The essence of each of their individual responses to Job.

- a. "God is just."
- b. "God protects."
- c. "Remember God's promises."
- d. "God is faithful."
- e. "Remember the mystery of God."
- f. "God is good."
- g. "God is unsearchable."
- h. "Don't be surprised by spiritual darkness."
- i. "God is just." (repeated)
- j. "Remember the insignificance of man as compared to the magnificence of God."
- k. "God is righteous."
- l. "God is omniscient."
- m. "God is majestic." (repeated)

They were way to fast to _____ God's truth to Job.

They treated Job more like a _____ than a _____.
