



Redefining Comfort

July 5, 2020

"Comfort is the enemy of success, because the minute we feel comfortable we stop growing, stop pushing, and stop trying to improve."

- **Adam Erhart**, marketing growth strategist

"A comfort zone is a beautiful place, but nothing grows there."

- **Robert Stevenson**, Author and Founder, Seeking Excellence, Inc.

"Comfort, the enemy of progress."

- **P. T. Barnum** (the circus guy)

"A ship is always safe at shore, but that's not what it's built for."

- **Albert Einstein**

When is comfort good for us?

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

²¹Praise 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.

The greatest discomfort of all: facing truth

What may be the hardest truth of all to face?

The truth found in a person, Jesus Christ. *"I am the way and the **truth** and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* (John 14:6)

What makes us **avoid facing** Him, believing Him and inviting Him in?

Facing Him **shakes up** our carefully constructed lives, our patterns, habits, relationships, connections, world view, and vision for living.

What he offers **must outweigh** the potential losses of embracing him.

Because of what He offers...

Grace

Ephesians 2:8

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Forgiveness of Sin

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Eternity with Him

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

True Freedom

John 8:31-32

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "if you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free."

A Strong Forever Family

Psalm 133:1

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.

Challenge

Are you willing to be uncomfortable in any area of your life so growth can happen?

Are you willing to be uncomfortable in order to be in the presence of Jesus?

How will you take the next uncomfortable, inconvenient step?