Block 10: Seeking Comfort

Pattern for a 5" finished block—All seams are 1/4".
Pressing directions are indicated.

| Fabric 1 | Fat 1/16th yard or scrap | (4) 1-1/2" squares |
| Fabric 2 | Fat 1/16th yard or scrap | (9) 1-1/2" squares |
| Fabric 3 | Fat 1/16th yard or scrap | (4) 1-1/2"x3-1/2" rectangles |

“When life gives you lemons, make lemonade!” “What doesn’t kill you will make you stronger.” “God will not give you more than you can bear.” If you’ve ever been treated to these words of advice, you know that they don’t really give you much comfort when you find yourself in a situation that seems to be spinning out of control. In times of trial and trouble, our faith is shaken. We may even begin to question whether God has abandoned us. Even Jesus did. “My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?” Mark 15:34 The Oxford Annotated Bible, with the Apocrypha, Expanded Edition, 1977. Satan will use crisis and chaos to try to drive a wedge between us and God.

When facing adversity, we need to look no further than God’s word to find our comfort. “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” Psalm 46:1. God wants us to quietly reflect on our situation and place our life in His hands. “Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10. Oftentimes, when we face trials, we face them in silence. When we are given devastating news, when we face a debilitating illness, when we are involved in a tragic accident, we are often stunned into silence. During that silence, we have the opportunity to think, reflect and listen carefully. For in these moments of quiet reflection, God speaks to us. “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28.

When God comforts us in time of need, he is teaching us how to comfort others. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. Have you experienced God’s comfort in your life? How does your experience with God’s comfort help you to comfort others who may be suffering? Can you think of someone who is suffering right now, and needs to experience God’s comfort? In your prayers, ask God to comfort your friend and possibly use you in delivering His comfort.

But maybe you are not in a position to give comfort, because you are seeking it yourself. Sit and listen… and God will visit you with his peace and reassurance.
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Instructions
1. Stitch Fabric 1 & Fabric 2 squares together to form the three rows of the 9-patch unit in the center of the block. Press seams toward the darker fabric squares. Stitch the rows together to construct the 9-patch unit. Press seams open. The unfinished unit should measure 3-1/2” square.

2. Stitch a Fabric 3 rectangle to each side of the 9-patch unit from Step 1. Press toward the Fabric 3 rectangle. The unfinished unit should measure 5-1/2”x3-1/2”.

3. Stitch the remaining Fabric 2 squares to the sides of the remaining Fabric 3 rectangles. Press toward the Fabric 3 rectangles. Make 2 units. The unfinished units should measure 5-1/2”x1-1/2”.

4. Stitch the units from Step 3 to the top and bottom of the unit from Step 2. Press to the outside. Your unfinished block should measure 5-1/2”x5-1/2”.

Please contact us if you find an error in this pattern or have difficulty following these instructions.

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Block 10: Seeking Comfort

This block is named The Comfort Quilt. We often associate quilts with comfort. Quilters and guilds donate quilts to veterans, homeless shelters, hospitals, fire departments and others who face tragedy or crisis. We give comfort to others, as God has given comfort to us.

The space below is provided for your personal reflection.