

Grace Church Life Group Discussion Sheet

Week: 2 Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

Introduction:

Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted. If we are honest it seems that some of the beatitudes are paradoxical. Blessed are those who mourn? How? Primarily we mourn sin and its consequences in our hearts and the world around us. This heart posture reflects the posture of Christ which leads to blessedness.

In his sermon Pastor Tim quoted John Stott saying *“I fear that we evangelic Christians, by making much of grace, sometimes thereby make light of sin.”*

Discussion Body:

- 1) When you are sad or mourning something how do you cope?

- 2) Last session we discussed the reality that these beatitudes are built on a foundation of being poor in spirit. In review, being poor in spirit is primarily inward. It is a recognition of our spiritual condition apart from the work of Christ. How does this reality frame our discussion on “mourning” in verse 4?

- 3) As we grow in our relationship with Christ we become more and more aware of our sin and its consequences. In what ways have you mourned your own sin?

- 4) What examples of mourning do we find in the Bible?

5) How does mourning lead to blessedness?

“A deep doctrine of sin, a high doctrine of joy, and the two together produce this blessed, happy man who mourns, and who at the same time is comforted.” - Martin Lloyd Jones

6) The intensity of our mourning ebbs and flows. How does this resemble the concept sanctification in the life of the believer?

7) God promises comfort as we mourn honestly about sin and the way it distorts life. Specifically, in the Kingdom of God, what is the comfort that God promises to those who mourn “in spirit?”

Application:

8) In his sermon Pastor Tim said “Have we noticed in the beatitudes that these character traits are in some meaningful way hitched to one another almost like train cars are connected to one another?”

How is blessed are those who are poor in spirit “hitched” to blessed to are those who mourn?

9) Based on today’s beatitude, what needs to change for you?

Memorize Matthew 5:5

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

Ponder for next week:

How is *blessed are those who mourn* “hitched” to *blessed are the meek*?

Close in prayer.