

Matthew 5:4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”

Why is mourning a sign of the Kingdom?

- ✓ Because bad things do happen to _____ people.

Hebrews 11:35-40 There were others who were tortured... persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground. These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since **God had planned something better** for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

James 1:2-4 Consider it pure **joy**, my brothers, whenever you **face trials** of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops **perseverance**. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be **mature and complete, not lacking anything**.

Isaiah 57:1 Good people pass away; the godly often die before their time. But no one seems to care or wonder why. No one seems to understand that **God is protecting them** from the evil to come.

6 Stages to Grief: Shock – _____ – Struggle –
_____ –Sanctification –Service.

- ✓ The closer I get to Jesus, the more I am aware of my own _____.

Romans 3:23 ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

John 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

- ✓ Grieved at the _____ of the world.

Matthew 18:6-7 “If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come!”

- ✓ This develops the _____ of Jesus in our heart.

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2 Corinthians 1:3-5 Praise 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. For just as we share **abundantly** in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort **abounds** through Christ.

2 Corinthians 1:8-11 We were under **great pressure**, far beyond our ability to **endure**, so that we **despaired** of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not **rely on ourselves** but on God, who **raises the dead**. **He has** delivered us from such a deadly peril, and **he will** deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that **he will continue** to deliver us, **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.

3 Ways to live through a bad day:

1. _____ on what's happening in me, not to me.

2 Corinthians 1:9 But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.

Key Question: Ask, "What is God trying to teach me?"

2. _____, God always delivers.

2 Corinthians 1:10 **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...

Revelation 21:3-4 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the **dwelling of God is with men**, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe **every tear from their eyes**. There will be no more death or **mourning** or crying or pain, for the **old order** of things has passed away."

3. _____ on solid relationships.

2 Corinthians 1:11 ...he will continue to deliver us 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**.

Walk Away: He is the God of all _____, who comforts us in all our troubles, so _____ can comfort those in any trouble.

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