

Small Group Guide: Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

Opening Prayer

Key Takeaways:

1. Mourning is a present and future reality for believers, but comfort is promised.
2. There are different types of mourning: over personal sin, the state of the world, and loss.
3. Grieving can lead to wisdom and spiritual growth when approached with faith.
4. Jesus empathizes with our grief and offers ultimate comfort.
5. The promise of future comfort in eternity should give us hope in present mourning.

Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out to you most from the sermon? Why?
2. The pastor mentioned that "blessed are those who mourn" seems contradictory. How do you understand this paradox in light of the sermon?
3. How does mourning over our own sin differ from worldly sorrow? Why is this distinction important?
4. The sermon touched on asking "what" instead of "why" in times of grief. How might this change in perspective affect how we process difficult situations?
5. How does Jesus' response to Lazarus' death (John 11) inform our understanding of God's perspective on human grief?
6. Discuss the quote: "Till sin be bitter, Christ will not be sweet." How does this relate to our spiritual growth?
7. How can we balance mourning over sin and the state of the world with the joy we have in Christ?
8. In what ways does the promise of future comfort (Revelation 21:4) impact how we face challenges today?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, practice asking "what is God teaching me?" instead of "why is this happening?" when facing difficulties.
2. Take time to reflect on areas of sin in your life. Confess these to God and a trusted friend, focusing on God's forgiveness and desire for your growth.
3. Reach out to someone you know who is grieving. Offer comfort and share the hope we have in Christ.
4. Meditate on Revelation 21:4 daily. How does this promise change your perspective on current struggles?
5. As a group, discuss ways you can support each other in times of mourning and how to celebrate moments of comfort and joy together.

Closing Prayer

Encourage group members to continue reflecting on the sermon throughout the week and to share any insights at the next meeting.