

Mourning

What breaks your heart? What causes you to mourn? What has brought sadness into your life? Sadness and mourning has come into my life when I have experienced loss. I have discovered that I don't like change nearly as much as I thought I did. **How so?** I mourn the loss of relationships. I mourn the loss of what once was but can never be again. I mourn the passage of time. I mourn the passing away of friends and family. I mourn the loss of opportunity. I mourn the fact that I am aging. I mourn the loss of my youth. I mourn my own sin. I mourn sin and suffering and evil that is in the world. What has all your mourning caused you to do? My mourning has caused me to come to you. My mourning has caused me to draw near to you so you can draw near to me. **That is very good. That is a good result of mourning, isn't it?** Yes, it is. **You have allowed me to bring my comfort into your life when you have been mourning. It is very good that you mourn over your own sin. What do you do when you mourn over your sin?** I confess my sins to you. **What do you receive when you confess your sins to me?** I receive your comfort, forgiveness and cleansing. **What do you do when you mourn over sin, and suffering and evil that is in the world?** I work against sin, suffering and evil in the world. I go where you guide me. I do what you ask of me. You allow me to see sin, and suffering and evil in the world so that you can use me to stand against it. **Yes, I do.**

Your perspective on mourning is not all good and positive. What do you mean by that? You mourn parts of life that have gone by. It would be better to rejoice and be grateful over what you have enjoyed in life rather than to mourn that those days past days are gone. Do you think that the best of life is all behind you? Is that why you mourn? Is that what you think? Yes, my perspective has not been good. I have good days ahead. I have eternal life with you in front of me. **That should be a great source of comfort and joy for you.** Yes, it is. **What will you do differently because you know that you have eternal life, with me, ahead of you?** I live my life with more urgency and expectancy. **Why is that?** I know that I have very little time left to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. I want to make the best use of the time. **So, you don't have much time to mourn, do you?** No, I do not. **Be comforted with the life I have given to you now and forever. Let me use you with the time you have left in this life.** Yes Lord, I will. **That will be very good.**

Lord, I hope my heart breaks over what breaks yours. I want to mourn when you mourn. I mourn over my sin and will confess it. I mourn over sin, suffering and evil in the world and will work against it. Comfort me when I mourn so I can also comfort others. Amen

Be *Comforted*
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
NIV Matthew 5:4

Be *Comforted*
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
NIV Matthew 5:4

Be *Comforted*
God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
NLT Matthew 5:4

Be *Comforted*
Blessed *are* those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.
NKJV Matthew 5:4

Be *Comforted*
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
NRSV Matthew 5:4

Be *Embraced*
"You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.
MSG Matthew 5:4

Be *Comforted*
Blessed *and* enviably happy [with a happiness produced by the experience of God's favor and especially conditioned by the revelation of His matchless grace] are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted!
AMP Matthew 5:4

Be *Comforted*
Those who mourn are fortunate! for they shall be comforted.
TLB Matthew 5:4

Be *Comforted*
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
NASB Matthew 5:4

Be *Comfort Them*
Those who are sad now are happy, because God will comfort them.
NCV Matthew 5:4

Comforted

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Be – Matthew 5:4

In Context: *Read Matthew 5*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4 (NIV)

Considering The Words: *(What words speak to your heart?)*

Blessed | are those | who mourn, | for they | will | be comforted. Matthew 5:4 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I hope my heart breaks over what breaks yours. I want to mourn when you mourn. I mourn over my sin and will confess it. I mourn over sin, suffering and evil in the world and will work against it. Comfort me when I mourn so I can also comfort others. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When has your heart been broken over your own sin?

When has your heart been broken over sin, evil and suffering that is in the world?

When has your heart been broken over the fact that your sin made Christ's death on the cross necessary?

When has mourning over your own sin caused you to confess them to the Lord?

When has your mourning over sin, evil and suffering in the world caused you to act against it?

When has a tragedy caused you to mourn bitterly over it?

How has the Lord come to comfort you when your heart and mind and life was filled with mourning?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Allow the Lord to comfort you when you are mourning.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will comfort you when you are mourning.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has comforted you when you were mourning.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you receive the Lord's comfort when you are mourning.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will allow you to comfort me when I am mourning.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how do you want to comfort me when I am mourning?
