



# BUILT to Last

These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on... Matthew 7:24-27(MSG)

- The **foundation** of your life determines the strength of your life.
- God's **word** in us provides God's **strength** for us.

### The Beatitudes:

- Beatitudes describe the **temperament** of a Follower of Christ.
- Beatitudes are **attitudes** we have as a result of our encounters with God.

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

### Mourning is:

- Mourning is the sorrow we feel due to our **lack** or **loss** in life.

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens... 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance... Ecclesiastes 3:1,4 (NIV)

- Our sorrow for our **sinful** condition.  
...I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin. Psalm 38:18 (NIV)

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation... 2 Corinthians 7:10 (NIV)

- Sorrow for the spiritual condition of the **world**.  
As he (*Jesus*) approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it. Luke 19:41 (NIV)

- Sorrow for the **bad things** we experience.  
When Jesus saw Lazarus' sister sobbing, and saw how all those with her were crying also, his heart was touched, and he was deeply moved . . . Then Jesus started crying. 'See how much he loved Lazarus!' they said. John 11:33-36 (NIV)

- The right response to loss and lack is not to **fake** it but **face** it.
- This world doesn't do well with **sorrow**.

For the world, partying is not about the celebration of life but the **medication** for life.

- Mourning has just as much to do with **where we turn**, as to how we **feel**.

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

26 But when the Father sends the Comforter instead of me —and by the Comforter I mean the Holy Spirit—he will teach you much, as well as remind you of everything I myself have told you. John 14:26 (TLB)

Comforted means - "to be brought **close**."

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.. Psalm 34:18 (NCV)

### Two application steps:

- In your sorrow, **turn to God**.

13 As a mother comforts her child, so I'll comfort you. ..." Isaiah 66:13 (MSG)

3 ...God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:3 (NLT)

- When you see someone hurting, **go to them**.

4 He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. 2 Corinthians 1:4 (NLT)

*Blessed are those who have experienced brokenness, who allow themselves to feel the lack and loss of life; because as they look to God in their loss, they will be brought close and experience His comfort. (Dave's version)*

4 "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. Matthew 5:4 (MSG)



## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

### Questions for Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- How does God's word in us provide God's strength for us? How would you rate the strength of your life?
- Is there a difference between how people in the world and people in God's Kingdom mourn? Explain
- How do we mourn our sinful condition? Why is that a spiritually healthy response for Christ Followers?
- Why is it important to mourn the spiritual condition of this world?
- When it comes to sorrow, do you fake it or face it? What happens if we suppress it or refuse to deal with it?
- Do you find that the world has a difficult time allowing themselves to feel sorrow? Why is it so difficult to face the sorrows of life?
- Where do people turn for comfort in times of mourning? What does where we turn reveal about us?
- Since God is the source of comfort, how does God give comfort?
- How do we turn to God in our sorrow? Tell of a time that you turned to God in your sorrow. How did that help you?
- Why is it important for us to give to others the comfort we have received from God?
- How does this beatitude provide us strength we need in life?

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