



Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Romans 12:15 (NLT)

...an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" Matthew 1:20-23 (NLT)

Four things God makes clear to Joseph:

- Don't be **afraid**.
- Don't **give up**.
- Don't forget who is in **control**.
- Don't do life **alone**.

Christmas reminds us that Jesus came to be with you in the **pain** and the **uncertainties** of life.

- Because God is with you, make every effort to **be with Him**.

God with us means:

- God will **provide** to us all that we need to make it through what we're going through.
- God is **present** in our **pain**.
If your heart is broken, you'll find GOD right there; if you're kicked in the gut, he'll help you catch your breath. Psalm 34:18 (MSG)

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

Definition of Comfort:

Coming to one's aid to provide help and encouragement.

God's Comfort:

- Gives us **perspective** we need.

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NLT)

God's perspective reminds us that:

- God is **with us**.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18

- God is **aware** of our condition.

...you keep close watch on all my paths. Job 13:27 (NIV)

You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book. Psalm 58:6

- God **cares** for us.

The LORD is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him. Nahum 1:7 (NLT)

Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. 1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)

- God wants to **help us**.

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand. Isaiah 41:10 (NLT)

- God's comfort comes through His **resources**

Resources that give us comfort:

- God's **Word**.

I am completely discouraged... Revive me by your Word. Psalm 119:25 (TLB)

... your Word has been my comfort. Psalm 119:52 (TLB)

- God's **People**.

...God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. 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 1:3-4 (NLT)

- God's **Spirit**.

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. "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart! And the peace I give isn't fragile like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:26-27 (TLB)

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. Romans 8:11 (NLT)

God's Comfort:

- Gives us hope of **heaven** with Him.

He will wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain. All of that has gone forever." Revelation 21:4



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?
- Do you find strength from belonging to a church that cares for you? How does that help you?
- When one of our families in the church is hurting, what should be our response?
- How have you experience God with you in your pain and uncertainties?
- How does God's perspective change us?
- What does it mean to you that God is with you?
- What does it mean to you that God is aware of your condition?
- How does God's care change our perspective?
- Have you tapped into the resources that give us God's comfort? Which of these resources is most difficult for you to tap into? Explain
- Read revelation 21:4; How does this scripture bring you comfort about heaven?
- How can we help those who are going through difficult times?

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THE Quest CHURCH **GIVING TREE** EST. 2004

We have a great opportunity to bless some families this year!

3 easy steps to make a difference:

1. Take an ornament from the tree in the lobby
2. Purchase the item(s)
3. Return wrapped gift/gift card (with ornament attached) no later than December 18th

Sharing Jesus through generosity!

There will be NO Gathering at The Quest on Christmas Day ...

Watch Pastor Dave's message online at www.fresnoquest.com

Have a Merry CHRISTmas!

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

JANUARY 9-29, 2023



GOD with US

...makes all the difference.

Today's Talk..

The Comfort We Need

Sunday, December 18th, 2022