

For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son... Colossians 1:13 (NLT)

- We experience the kingdom of God When Jesus rules our lives.
- The message of the Kingdom calls everyone to **Repentance**.

From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near." Mark 1:15

 When God's love for us brings no <u>repentance</u> from us, we have embraced Him with our mind but not our heart.

...And you will perish, too, unless you repent of your sins and turn to God. Luke 13:3

**Definition**: Repentance

Repentance is a change in how I think that leads to a change in how I live.

### Three parts to repentance:

Mental Element.

The law simply shows us how sinful we are. Romans 3:20 (NLT)

Emotional Element.

For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. 2 Corinthians 7:10 (NLT)

Sacrificial Element.

So turn away from your sins. Turn to God. Then your sins will be wiped away. Acts 3:19 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4 (NIV)

Mourning is the sorrow we feel due to our <u>lack</u> or <u>loss</u> 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)

#### Mourning includes:

• 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 lack and loss is not to **fake** it but **face** it.

If we don't deal with it in healthy ways, we will act it out in unhealthy ways.

• 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)

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)

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

### Two application steps:

In your sorrow, turn to God.

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

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

When you see someone hurting, go to them.

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.

"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 that can be used in 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?
- In what ways do you experience Christ's rule in your life?
- In your own words, why is repentance so important in our salvation?
- 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 kingdom citizens?
- 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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Today's Talk..



## **Attitudes of the Kingdom pt.2**

Sunday, October 8th, 2023

