



“You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. Matthew 5:13

“Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage. Matthew 5:13 (MSG)

- Our role in this world is to be **influencers** in the world.

#### The Beatitudes are:

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

#### The Definition is:

“Blessed” - (1) The attitude we have because of God’s favor or (2) The mindset that comes from God’s blessings.

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)
- Mourning is the sorrow we feel 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)
- Mourning is the sorrow we feel for the spiritual condition of the **world**.  
As he (*Jesus*) approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it. Luke 19:41 (NIV)
- Mourning is the sorrow we feel 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 to **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 with 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)

16 May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting comfort and hope, which we don’t deserve, 17 comfort your hearts with all comfort, and help you in every good thing you say and do. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 (TLB)

## VISION: 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.
- How does it make you feel that God wants you to be an influencer in this world?
- In your own words, how would you describe mourning?
- 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 those in the world have 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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