

"Finding Comfort"

September 17, 2008

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"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" (Matthew 5:4)

SUMMARY:

Do you remember any teachers that left an indellible impression upon you in your schooling? The Lord Jesus was beyond comparison...the model teacher/instructor. Not only did He impart truth, He was the personification of Truth (Jn. 14:6). He had the unique ability to see right into the very 'hearts' of every individual and could understand what they needed. Have you ever been 'broken' or gone through a 'painful experience?' A basic human need for every person is to be comforted...whether you are a child, a teenager or a full-grown adult! Jesus, the Master Teacher, gives us keen insight on how we can 'be comforted' and in turn provide 'comfort' to others in need...stay tuned!

NOTES:

Please take note of the uniqueness of Jesus' teaching style:

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What does Jesus mean by 'mourning?'

The Greek word (strongest He could have used) is pantheo meaning, _____.

It means several things:

Note the Promise: "...for they shall be comforted"

The word He used is 'parakaleo' meaning, _____
_____. Used of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 14:16)

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Introductory Question :Can you recall a painful time in your life when someone came alongside to provide 'comfort' to you? Share an experience with your table group.

Discussion:

Was there ever a time when you felt 'broken' due to sin? If you ever experienced a 'loss' which caused you to mourn/sorrow...how did you get through it?

Share an experience of when you had opportunity to 'comfort' someone going through a 'painful time.'

APPLICATION:

Let me suggest some practical things for you to do where you can be a 'comforter' to someone:

- *Send a note of encouragement to someone the Lord lays on your mind.
- *Do something for someone that cannot return the favor.
- *Pay a bill for someone anonymously that is going through financial difficulties.
- *Check your attitude before you pass judgement on someone...you may not be privy to the whole situation.
- *Ask the Lord for insight as to how you can creatively help someone and minister the love of Jesus Christ.

ON YOUR OWN...

These scriptures will prove helpful to you: Psalm 32 and 51; Psalm 30:5; 2 Corinthians 1:3-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13; John 14:16