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Beatitudes: THOSE WHO MOURN

Matthew 5:3-11: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

V.4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted

First Instinct: Turn away from the pain.

Reality- The comfort of divine presence.

Genesis 21:15-19

When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, “I cannot watch the boy die.” And as she sat there, she began to sob. God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

New Posture- Face the Pain

- Make space to mourn
 - **Psalm 69:10:** ...I have broken my spirit with fasting...
- Waiting in stillness
 - **Psalm 46:10:** Be still and know that I am God.
- Learning to be present with God

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- Writing a complaint
 - **Psalm 22:1:** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent.

- Mourning with those who mourn
 - **Isaiah 50:4:** The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

- Learning to be present with people

- Brokenness and pain are not the end of the story
 - **Psalm 23:5:** You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.