



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

February 9, 2025

“What the Beatitudes Tell Us About Those Who Mourn”

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.” – Matthew 5:4

Some years ago, I was talking with a friend who had just lost someone close to them. They told me, “I don’t know if I’ll ever feel whole again.” I wanted to acknowledge and support them in their grief. What do you say in those moments? At that moment I don’t think my friend felt “blessed.” Sometimes, words by themselves fail.

Mourning is real. It is deep sorrow, grief that lingers, a pain that comes from loss. It’s something we all experience at some point—losing someone we love, facing shattered dreams, or seeing the brokenness of the world around us.

And yet, mourning is not all there is. The Beatitudes always come in two parts—there is the present reality, and then there is God’s response. God feels the pain but doesn’t leave us there. The promise is comfort.

This tells us something about the nature of God. God does not ignore our suffering. God does not tell us to “move on” or “get over it.” Instead, God meets us in our sorrow. Mourning is part of life, but so is the comfort that follows. God created us with the ability to feel deeply—not as a burden, but as a gift, a blessing if you will. Our emotions allow us to connect with one another, to share in both sorrow and joy. And in that connection, there is hope.



God’s design is not for us to grieve alone. Comfort comes through His presence, through the people He places around us, through the promise that mourning will not last forever. In grief, we see the heart of God—a heart that invites us into His love, where true comfort is found.

Grief may feel like an isolating experience, but it is also a reminder that we were never meant to carry life’s burdens alone. In mourning, we are drawn closer to God and to one another. The promise of comfort is not just about relief from sorrow; it is about the presence of love that surrounds us even in the darkest moments.

Sometimes, comfort comes as a whispered prayer, a friend’s steady presence, or the quiet assurance that God sees our pain. Other times, it is the simple act of sharing grief with someone who understands. The Beatitudes remind us that God does not leave us in our mourning—He steps into it with us. And because of that, sorrow never has the final word. In time, healing comes. In time, joy returns. And in every moment, God remains near, offering the comfort only He can give. – God’s Peace, Vance

Prayer box: let us pray for the souls of James, Bill C. and George N. and those who mourn for them. Let us pray for comfort and healing for Connie, Diane M., Patti, Holland, Steve, John H., Debbie, Brenda, John P. and Maggie. Lord, hear our prayers!