



As verse 3 ends with being in desperate need of God, as we become aware of our sin and how short we fall in comparison to the perfection of Jesus and the glory of God, we mourn.

Week 2: Read Matthew 5:3-4; Genesis 3:6-13; Psalm 30:1-12

What is your natural response to acknowledging you've fallen short of God's goodness and His glory? Shame and hiding? Humility and grief? Finger pointing at anyone but yourself? Another kind of response?

Why do you think you respond in this way? Dig deep here.

Does your response stem from:

The way you were parented?

The church teachings you were brought up in?

Not fully knowing what God is like yet?

Something else?

What do we learn about God in these verses?

Read: Matthew 5:4; 2 Corinthians 7:8-10

How do you think God wants us to respond in the face of our own sinfulness? Why?

Is this response a place we're meant to permanently inhabit? If not, what is this place intended to lead us toward?

How does this differ from what you've understood, particularly in connection with the first two questions?

Prayer:

Father, You are so good, and so kind. Thank you for your great compassion on us, in spite of our sinfulness, and in spite of our rebellion. Thank you for accepting our mourning, and through your grace and forgiveness, lifting us up, and eventually turning our sorrow into dancing. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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