

2021.01.31 Sunday Sermon <Godly Grief Vs Worldly Grief>

2 Corinthians 7:10

For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Due to COVID-19, the entire world is suffering and we are all living in fear. This fear is mostly about the future and the unknowns. Here are some of the reasons behind our anxiety by age groups:

- 10's - Anxious about college entrance
- 20's - Anxious about getting jobs
- 30's - Anxious about marriage
- 40's - Anxious about being unemployed
- 50's - Anxious about aging
- 60's - Anxious about who would take care of me as I age

But will living in anxiety help us? As Christians, what must we do and learn from our grief?

- **Psalm 119:71**
It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.

Based on today's scripture, there are two types of grieves:

1. Worldly Grief

- Living a self-centered life can lead to more sins and anxiety
- **Matthew 19:21 - 23**
²¹Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." ²²When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth. ²³Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven.

2. Godly Grief

- Reaching out to the Lord in repentance which leads to salvation and life without regret
- **2 Corinthians 7:9**
yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us.
- **Proverbs 24:16**
for though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.
- Jacob vs. Peter

Jacob	Peter
Experiences God's Presence	Relies on scripture
Fears God	Asks Jesus to leave due to his sins
Confesses and completely gives his life to God	Believes Jesus is the living son of God
Lies to his uncle for his own gain	Denies Jesus Christ three times

- Just like Jacob and Peter, we as humans are bound to fail and this is why we need to repentant and reach out to the Lord. *In order to do this, what must our hearts need?*

Our hearts must be filled with following:

1. Faith

- Coming to God
 - In **Acts 12**, while Peter was kept in prison to stop the growth of Christianity, the church prayed together. In one accord, with one mind they made their requests known to God. The impossible occurred and Peter was set free.

- Praise
 - In **Acts 16**, while Paul and Silas were put in a jail chained to the wall, the unthinkable occurred. The entire jail shook and the chains fell off from all the prisoners and prison gates were opened on their own.
 - **Hymn 455 Second Verse**
*The passing days bring many cares. "Fear not" I hear Him say
 And when my fears are turned to prayers. The burden slip away
 Singing I go along life's road. For Jesus has lifted my load.*

2. Prayer

- Pray earnestly by lifting both of our hands up high to the Lord
- Prayer for Mourning and Repentance
 - In **Psalm 51**, we can read about David's prayer for repentance. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
 according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

In Summary:

- We have two types of grieves - **Godly vs. Worldly**. What type of grief do you have?
- No matter what is ahead of us, know that God will be there for us.
Isaiah 43:2
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.
- Fill your hearts with **faith and prayer**.
Psalm 121:1-8
¹ *I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from?*
² *My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.*
³ *He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber;*
⁴ *indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*
⁵ *The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand;*
⁶ *the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.*
⁷ *The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;*
⁸ *the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.*