

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOW SHIP

Grief and Loss John 11:14-38

I. A World of Death and Loss

A. If You would have been here...

1. We're told we will overcome, but that involves struggle
2. We're even supposed to be glad about trouble (James 1:2-8)

B. God's Sorrow

1. Jesus weeps because He sees what we go through (vs32-38)
 - a. We could do better (Luke 13:34, 19:41-44)
 - b. He understands though and sympathizes (Heb 4:15-16)
2. The Father comforts and strengthens us (2 Cor 1:3-7)

II. Why Does He Allow It?

A. Our Loss

1. Relationships gone though death or change
2. Circumstances altered through no fault of our own
 - a. even ministries that God has given us
 - b. opportunities lost where we were growing and having an influence
3. It hurts, and it should.
 - a. your emotional response is ok: anger, fear, sadness, emptiness, etc
 - b. go through it. talk to God about it. yell at God about it. (Ps 77)

B. Why?

1. God has a purpose (Ex 3:7-10)

2. God is caring (Matt 6:25-27)

C. I Don't Know

1. It just isn't for us to conference (Job 38:1-11)

2. We try to make sense of and control things

III. A World of Life and Hope

A. Resurrected at the last day (vs. 23-27)

1. Jesus says to believe (John 14:1)

a. is He truthful?

b. does He really care?

c. can He do it?

2. Jesus asks us to respond with confidence (James 1:5-7)

B. To be with Him

1. It isn't the rest or the mansions, it's to be with Jesus (John 14:2-7)

2. We'll see His love and justice and we regain what we've lost.