

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Emotions of Christmas: Grief and Comfort

December 11, 2016

Isaiah 40:1-11

- 1.) What has been your experience with grief (previously or currently)? When was the last time your particular situation made you feel alone and question God's concern for you and your situation?
- 2.) What does comfort look like/feel like and NOT look like/feel like in a painful situation? How does the comfort God's presence with us gives us help instruct us on how we can comfort others? (BONUS: Read II Corinthians 1:3-7 together and discuss!)
- 3.) What truth about God is most comforting to you during times of grief and pain? What truth about God is most difficult for you to embrace during times of grief and pain?
- 4.) Will pointed out that in Isaiah 40:10-11, the same "arm" of God that rules with might also carries his lambs. What picture does that paint for you? Put that in your own words, and apply it to a painful situation in the life of someone else in the room (or yourself!).
- 5.) The end of Isaiah's picture of Jesus as tender shepherd says he "gently leads those that are with young." In other words, he treasures his people personally and is most tender with those who are most hurting. How does that encourage you? How can you demonstrate that same heart in caring for others?
- 6.) Do you ever struggle to connect an eternal hope with a present comfort (i.e. you believe it's true but it doesn't help today!)? How does the Lord's Supper picture that and help you with that difficulty?



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