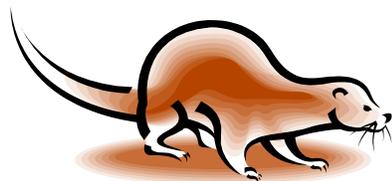


## Beatitude 2 – Those Who Mourn

Children – last week we talked about being happy – this week we will talk about sadness. Have you ever been sad? Have you ever been REALLY sad – the kind of sadness that just won't go away? To mourn is more than just sadness. When people mourn it's hard to think of anything else.



Do you remember the two friends I introduced to you last week? Freddy the Frog and Oslo the Otter – you might remember that I said Oslo is almost always happy. Well, there are some things that make Oslo sad – there are some things that should make everyone sad.

In the cold pond where Freddy and Oslo live not everyone loves God – that is something that we all should be sad about. I told you last week that Freddy saw himself as the king of his world. His brothers and sisters are not like him-- they are kind and generous. Freddy is not. Oslo's family is just the opposite of Freddy's family. Beside Oslo, none of his brothers or sisters knows God as King.

Now here is the trouble at the pond -- the trouble that makes Oslo the Otter sad – with a sadness that won't go away. When Oslo's brothers and sisters are playing together in the pond they always seem to talk about how much better it would be if they had the riches of the frog family. They often say very hurtful things and make fun of the frog family. Oslo wishes he didn't have to hear these things. The things they are saying aren't doing them or Oslo any good. You see Oslo knows God is King and he hopes someday his brothers and sisters would see God the same way. Freddy's family wishes the same for Freddy – that he too would change. But how does that happen? How does someone change his ways?



Yeshua taught “blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted.”

Oslo reads the Bible and hears what it says. As he watches his brothers and sisters and sees how much they talk about all kinds of bad things, he longs for the time when they can hear the words that Yeshua teaches more than their own words. He remembers that God is King. His King knows what he needs – what difference should it make if the Frog family has more than him? He feels a little sad and doesn't know why. His sadness won't go away. But God is able to comfort Him. God knows the trouble at the pond and mourns with him, and this one thought makes Oslo pray and seek God more—he believes God and trusts in Him and is comforted. You see nothing escapes the view of the King.

Do you remember the beatitude from last week? Parents can you take these two beatitudes and help your children review them. So far we have learned 1) Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven and 2) Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted. Here are a few other Bible passages that you could read together as families.

For Further Study: together as families read and consider these topics for discussion:

- 1) Gen 6:5-8 -- The flood – hearts only on evil continually – God grieved
- 2) Isa 61:1-3 -- God has plans for this world – how does comforting those who mourn fit into His prophetic proclamation?
- 3) Ezek 11:17-21 --Everyone can grieve – those with hearts of stone and flesh – discuss this concept in relation to this beatitude