Comfort & Joy

Isaiah 66:13 – "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you."

Micah 5:2 – "But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel, whose origins are in the distant past, will come from you on my behalf."

1. God sent Jesus to comfort and save us. Isaiah 61:1

2. Jesus comforts us with His presence. Matthew 1:23;

John 14:18; John 14:27

We experience our Father's comforting presence through:

- Prayer: Ephesians 6:18; John 14:16
- Provision: Philippians 4:19; Luke 12:27-31
- Promise: 2 Thessalonians 2:16; John 14:1-3

3. Jesus comforts us when <u>we</u> comfort one another. 2 Corinthians 1:3-7: Hebrews 10:23-25: 2 Thess. 2:16-17

Discussion Questions:

 What is your favorite comfort food? What else do you look to for comfort? (blanket, coffee, socks, etc...)
How do you feel about having a Heavenly Father who not only wants to save you for eternity, but also wants to comfort you in the here and now?
What way do you most experience Cod's comfort?

3. What way do you most experience God's comfort? (prayer, provision, promise). How could you experience His comfort even more?

4. Are you aware that you are one of God's ways He uses to comfort His other children? How are you intentionally partnering with God to be a comfort to others?