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Weep with those who weep

Romans 12:15b

● Perhaps nothing says I love you more than tears. When someone else weeps for us, we have found someone who cares. We often use the expression “moved to tears” to describe someone’s deep compassion for another. Only the strongest people cry.

1. In Job 30:25 we read that Job often wept (before his suffering). Who did he weep for, and why did he weep for them?
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2. What did Christ promise those who wept in compassion for others? (Lk. 6:21)
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Jesus wept when He stood in front of the tomb of Lazarus. Those who saw this presumed that He was saddened by Lazarus’s passing (John 11:36). Dr. F.W. Boreham notes that this could hardly be the reason for Christ’s tears since He knew that Lazarus was going to die. Instead, Dr. Boreham states that when Christ stood in front of that tomb, He was the only who actually knew where Lazarus was - and he wasn’t really in that tomb (even though his body was!). Christ wept, writes Dr. Boreham, because He was about to take Lazarus out of Paradise and bring him back to this life!

3. Note Mark 5:39. Why didn’t Jesus weep along with those mourning?
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4. Why did the Psalmist feel that God would hear his prayers according to Psalm 39:12?
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5. Tears are often associated with prayers of passionate appeal. Note Psalm 56:8. What “book” do you think the Psalmist may have had in mind?
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6. There is a time to cry (Eccl. 3), there is another time to rejoice and laugh (Ps. 126:5). What do you need to develop in order to know when it is appropriate to weep with or for someone?
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7. What could you pray for yourself if you find it hard to cry tears of compassion with and for others?
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Would we shed more tears if we were closer to the heart of God? (Psalm 119:136)

Amen.