GOOD GRIEF! By Al Diestelkamp

Grief is defined as “deep and poignant distress caused by or as if by bereavement” [Meriam-Webster Dictionary]. Most of us have experienced it. While enduring it, grief certainly doesn’t feel good, but in the end it has its reward.

Perhaps that’s why Solomon was inspired to write: “A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of one’s birth; Better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men; And the living will take it to heart. Sorrow is better than laughter, for by a sad countenance the heart is made better” (Eccl. 7:1-3). We also know that sorrow caused by the death of a loved one who was made righteous through Jesus Christ, though painful, is “not as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus” (1 Thess. 4:13-14). That’s *good* grief!

*260 N. Aspen Dr., Cortland, IL 60112*

*e-mail: aldiestel@gmail.com*