

Should I be Sad or Glad?

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When a loved one dies, how should we feel? Should we feel sad or glad for our loved one? Well, truly, the answer is – Both! We should feel sad for them, knowing that they will no longer be around to interact with their family and friends. They will not get to see their kids or grandkids grow up. And if they were young, they will not get the chance to grow old and experience life to its fullest. We should also feel sad for ourselves and for all the loved ones they left behind. They and we will no longer be able to see, hold or talk to them on this side of heaven.

So Yes, we have a right to feel sad. But we should also have a right and desire to feel glad for our deceased loved one. Your level of sadness will depend, in part, on how close of a relationship you have had with your loved one. And your level of gladness will depend, in part, on how close of a relationship you and your loved one have had with your Lord and Savior Christ Jesus.

As a Christian, I strongly believe that when people die, their spirit immediately separates from their physical body and if they are a Christian, it goes to their new heavenly home to reside with Jesus. So, as my 92-year-old mother has told me, “When I die, at my funeral, I don’t want people moping around, being sad. I want everyone to be glad for me. I will finally be home where I belong!”

Therefore, we should be glad for our Christian loved ones. We should rejoice for them. Being in spirit-form now, they are finally free of their physical ailments, free of their emotional baggage, and free from this world of sin. They are now in the presence of not only their Lord, Savior and Creator, but also all of their loved ones who had died and gone on before them.

So, yes, when a loved one dies, we should grieve and be sad, for a season, for ourself and for loved ones still here, knowing that they will no longer be in our presence physically. But we should also be glad for our deceased loved one, knowing that they are now living face-to-face with Jesus who loves them dearly, and they are well and are well taken care of.