

Group Discussion Guide

Week of March 3, 2024

Refined Not Destroyed – 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- What are some different ways you have used fire in your life?
- What are some good things that fire accomplishes?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

MAIN POINT

God allows us to go through “the fire” at times in life so that we will be refined in our relationship with Him.

DIGGING INTO THE WORD

- Why do you think some people believe the misconception - following Jesus means your life will be easier?
- How can believing that misconception be dangerous for us?

READ – 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

- What is the promise of these verses?
- Why might God allow these difficulties in our lives?

READ – 1 Peter 4:12-13

- What is Peter's exhortation in these verses?

- How can asking “WHY?”, when we are going through difficulties, make things worse rather than better?
- Can you share a personal story of when you went through something difficult that ended up being a blessing to you or others?
- What would happen if we ordered our lives in such a way that we never experienced challenges or difficulties? Would we be stronger or weaker? Would be more content or less content?

Pastor Alex shared this quote... ***“I survived because the fire inside me burned brighter than the fire that surrounded me.”***

- What does that quote mean to you?
- How do we get a fire inside that burns brighter than the fire of difficulties we encounter in life?

READ – 1 Peter 1:6-7

- Can you share a time in your life when God “burned away” something negative from your life by taking you through a “fire”?

PRAISE REPORTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

Ask if anyone is in “the fire” right now and pray for them.

Take some time each week to share prayer requests and praise reports.

Have someone in your group record these prayer requests and email them out to the whole group to be praying for each other throughout the week.

Close with a time of prayer.