

"Persecution" Small Group Questions Week of October 27, 2019

Icebreaker:

Tell us of a time when you knew something difficult was ahead. How did you prepare yourself?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Have you ever met anyone who had to leave family, home or job because they were Christian? Tell us about that.
- 2. Read John 15:18-16:4. What reason did Jesus give in 16:1 for forewarning his disciples about persecution?
- 3. Does persecution mean that God has abandoned us? Explain your answer.
- 4. Take a moment to look around your small group and mentally choose two members (each of you may choose different members). Imagine that these brothers or sisters have been imprisoned for following Jesus.
 - List some of the specific things you would pray for on their behalf.
 - Compare these imagined prayers with how you actually pray for those experiencing persecution today.
- 5. Reread John 15:21. How does this verse help us pray for those who persecute Christians?
- 6. Spend time praying for our persecuted brothers and sisters, as well as for those who persecute them.

To go further: Consider learning more about the persecuted church in your small group through a four session video series hosted by J.D. Greear. (Videos, discussion guides and other resources are available at rippleeffectseries.com.)