



Yours Truly, Jesus: Week 3, To The Church of Smyrna

Chris Kopp, January 17, 2021

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion.
Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

Take some time to look up and read Revelation 2:8-11

1. How is Christ portrayed/described in this passage? (v8)
2. What encouragement does Christ have for the suffering? (v9-11)

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.

3. The church in Smyrna struggled against two hostile forces: a Jewish population strongly opposed to Christianity, and a non-Jewish population that was loyal to Rome and supported emperor worship. Persecution and suffering were inevitable in an environment like this.
 - What “environmental factors” may cause persecution and suffering for the church in our nation?
 - In what ways is the Gospel a threat to the kingdoms of the world?
4. Pain is part of life, but it is never easy to suffer, no matter what the cause. Jesus commended the church at Smyrna for its faith in suffering. Share a story about faith in suffering.
5. Imagine for a moment that Christianity is now illegal and punishable by slow and painful death. What part of your life would not have to change to meet the law?

Surrender: Responding to God’s voice.

6. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We’re here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your small group!

Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, communitylife@changeportalaska.com