



### **Application & Conclusion:**

Just like Polycarp, Jesus calls the believers in Smyrna to press on in faithfulness, even if it costs them their life. Why in the world would they do that? Because the One who died and came to life not only *experienced* the worst that life can do, but He also *conquered* the worst that life can do.

They do not fear the one who kills the body (rf. Matthew 10:28). Instead, they believe that the same Spirit that brought Jesus back to life lives in them as well (rf. Romans 8:11). They believe that the one who conquered death and the grave will also bring them up from their graves and place on their heads the crown of life.

Hear what the Spirit says to the churches: Stay the course with Jesus and He will reward you, not with judgement, but eternal life.

### **Reflection Questions:**

**1. What does this teach me about God?**

**2. What does this teach me about me?**

**3. How do I apply this to my life?**

