

\_\_\_\_\_ Can Be \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ are the \_
- 2. \_\_ are the Children of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Days Are \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. Do not fear \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Do not fear \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Do not fear \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Group Questions

1. What stood out to you most from this weeks message? Why?
2. Tertullian in AD 197 in a defense of Christianity to the Roman Empire said: “We multiply whenever we are mowed down by you; the blood of Christians is the seed of the church”. What does it mean for the blood of martyrs to be “seed” for the church? Is this always true?
3. Think of a time you experienced discouragement, persecution, or suffering. What encouragement did you need? How do/would Jesus’ words to the church at Smyrna encourage you?
4. How does Jesus’ eternity help provide comfort to those who are experiencing persecution or opposition?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 15 and consider how it relates to Revelation 2:8. What are the implications of Jesus’ resurrection for the Christian life?
6. Where is the Lord calling you to sacrifice for His kingdom’s sake?
7. Does Revelation 2:9 justify anti-Semitism? Why or why not?
8. Is suffering always a bad thing for the church? How can it ever be a blessing?
9. How would you explain the “second death” in your own words? How does Jesus deliver victory over the second death?
10. In what ways might Polycarp’s devotion be instructive for us today?