



Harvester Groups

Seven Churches: Smyrna | Revelation 2:8-11 | Group Questions Week 2

Open ****Discuss this question before watching the video.****

- Why do we suffer?

Video Teaching

Discuss*

- Do you think it is helpful to shift our question from “Why am I suffering?” to “What can I do with my suffering?”
- Respond to the statement: ***What we know about God is enough to trust Him with what we don't know about life.*** How does remembering ***Who God is*** help us when we are suffering?
- Read Daniel 1. Assuming that the “ten days” of testing mentioned in Revelation 2:10 is an allusion to Daniel 1, what might this suggest about what we can do with our suffering?
- Read James 1:2-4 and 2 Corinthians 1:8-11. How do these passages speak to our perspective of suffering?

Reflect

- In what ways are you experiencing suffering now?
- Who do you need God to be right now in your suffering? What space(s) can you create this next week to be with Him and explore that question?
- How can you see your current suffering as an opportunity for God's revelation? What would it take to help you see your situation in that light?
- Based just on this discussion, what should we pray about?

Digging Deeper (in addition to those listed in last week's discussion guide)

Lowery, Robert. *Revelation's Rhapsody*. Joplin: College Press, 2006.

“Christianity is not about avoiding or even just enduring the storms of life;
it's learning to dance in the rain.”

**Use these questions to guide your discussion. Don't feel like you have to go through all of them and make sure you take time to talk through any questions and observations from either the sermon or the lesson with the group.*