

Life Group Discussion Questions

Sunday, March 21st, 2021

Revelation 2:8-11
Pastor Manny Collazo

ICE BREAKER QUESTION:

How did your family handle difficulty and hardship growing up (i.e. avoid it at all costs, grin and bear it, see it as an opportunity to grow, etc.)?

HEAD

These questions will help us understand what the scripture teaches (who God is, what He's done, who we are, and how we should live).

- 1) What stood out to you in this section of scripture or from Sunday's sermon?

- 2) In verse 8 Jesus describes Himself as "him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again". In what ways do you think this was a meaningful and encouraging truth for the church of Smyrna to hear? In what ways should this description of Jesus encourage us (Calvary Monterey) today?

HEART

These questions will be geared towards shaping our hearts in light of the gospel. Our goal will be to align what we know with what we believe in our hearts.

- 3) In this passage we learn that the church of Smyrna experienced persecution because of their loyalty to Jesus. Has there been a time in your life that you have faced backlash from others because of your faith? How does Jesus' encouragement to the church in Smyrna inspire you to stay faithful to Christ in the face of rejection and discomfort as a believer?

- 4) Pastor Manny pointed out through this passage that Jesus is calling believers to "suffer well" in the face of hardship, persecution and the temptation towards compromise. What type of suffering are you experiencing in your life right now (i.e. physical, financial, relational, etc.)? What would it look like for you to suffer well and how does this passage encourage you to that end?

HANDS

This question will be geared towards us responding to the passage by allowing the Holy Spirit to change the way that we live.



5) All around the world we have brothers and sisters in Christ that are facing persecution for embracing the gospel message and putting their faith in Jesus. Take some time as a group to pray for those in different countries that are suffering persecution.

6) After studying this passage, we can be confident of God's faithfulness and sovereignty over us. What is one thing that you are going to do in response to these truths this week?

