



Smyrna: The Suffering Church

Text: Revelation 2:8-11

Topic: Tested Faith

Big Idea of the Message: Don't let persecution push you to give up on your faith. Jesus' resurrection ensures the resurrection of those who follow him.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
2. Think back to a time that you had to endure suffering. What gave you strength in that situation? What is your perspective on that experience now?
3. Why do you think that John starts by reminding the church of Jesus' death and resurrection?
4. We know that the church in Smyrna was financially poor. What does John mean when he says they are rich? How does one become rich in this sense?
5. In verse 10 John talks about suffering as a form of testing. What does suffering test in us?
6. In verse 11, Jesus says: "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." What do you think it means to have an ear to hear? How do we learn to "listen" spiritually?