

TRIALS AND SUFFERING! WHY ME?

REVELATION 2:8-11

- Am I willing to let go of what is temporal to gain what is eternal?
- Am I willing to endure my Savior's testing, so I can see what makes me truly rich?
- Am I willing to continually endure Savior's testing, so the Gospel message can spread through me?



DEAR CHURCH

Sept. 30 2018

Randy Shultz

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. As you listened to the message on trials from Revelation 2:8 – 11 on Sunday, what was one thing that will now impact your thinking when facing various trials?
2. In verse 8, why did Jesus describe himself in this way when addressing a church that was going through trials? How does this description of Jesus reduce the temporal things in your life and amplify the eternal? (See John 5:24 and 1 Cor. 15:54 – 57)
3. As you read through verses 9 – 10 list the things that Jesus knows about this church. When you consider he knows the same things about you when you are under pressure, what comfort do you get?
4. In verse 9, Jesus says he knows their poverty but yet says they are rich. What are some things that distract you from valuing how rich you truly are in Christ? Share with the group a time where trials and pressure allowed by Jesus removed those distractions.
5. Often the pressure from our society makes us silent about the Gospel. Why is that true when we see in many cases throughout the world that tribulation expands the Gospel? Does this pressure make you evaluate what makes you rich? (Revelation 2:5, Phil. 3:7 – 9a)
6. At the end of verse 10, Jesus said, Be faithful unto death and I will give you the crown of life? What does it mean to be faithful unto death? And what is the crown of life? (See also James 1:12 and 1 Corinthians 9:19 – 27.)
7. Read vs 11. Knowing you have the Gospel as your richest possession. And knowing the Gospel is the only thing we have in order to avoid the second death? How should you now live? (See also Romans 10:8 – 15)

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now.... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Question...

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