



Sermon Questions for your Small Group/LifeGroup to think on...

Sermon Outline:

1. The Church and the individuals who make up the Church should exhibit an attitude of Christ... even in the face of persecution. (v.8-9)

-Harmonious- to be of the same mind and heart, avoiding disruption and division, a person of peace, focused on the same calling and mission

-Sympathetic- selfless concern for the hurt of others,

-Brotherly- A love for God's people which is a sign of love of God himself (1 John 3:14)

-Kindhearted- Tender-hearted, compassionate pity

-Humble in spirit- knowing our creatureliness and limitations before the Creator, maintaining a continued spirit of teachableness

2. Living the "Good Life" is possible if we live by the Spirit... even in the face of persecution. (v.10-12)

1. During graduation season, we celebrate and "sum up" the accomplishments of the graduates. In summing up on how Christians should live in light of the gospel while they experience persecution, should we be aware of how we are living on an individual level or how we live as a church, or both? Why?

2. Why should we be able to reflect Christ in any disagreement or any situation that is not ideal? What are the characteristics that Peter lists?

3. Do you find yourself to be truly concerned for the hurt of others? Do you truly have a love for God's people or are they a means to an end? Are you tenderhearted, hurt for the things that God hurts for? Are you humble in Spirit? Are there any of the characteristics that Peter listed that you struggle to be?

4. How well do you respond to conversations of disagreement? How do you respond to someone who you believe has unfairly mistreated you? How do you respond to controversial issues such as COVID-19 and racial protests? Are you a blessing in those conversations? How should our responses reflect Christ?

5. Jesus said that he came that we may have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10). Through Jesus, we have eternal life. But does that life begin while we are still aliens residing in a place that's not our ultimate home? How should that bring us comfort in the midst of persecution and mistreatment?

6. Do you find joy in the fact that God is with you as you walk through any situation, good or bad? How does it make you feel knowing that he knows every detail of every struggle of your life?

7. How does remembering God's justice help us while we experience injustice in this life? Does this help us continue to love and serve those who mistreat us?

8. Why is being a person of true character (the character of Christ), impossible without the power of the Holy Spirit?

9. The calling that God places on our lives to have an attitude of self-sacrifice to love and serve those who disagree and possibly hate us is a big calling. How does this remind us of the gospel and what Jesus did?

10. What was one of the biggest things that stuck with you from the service this weekend?