

Feb 9, 2025 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group

"Jesus Loves the Church," 2 -- Revelation 2:8-11

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

1. How does the self-description of Jesus as "first and last" contrast with "died and came to life"?
2. What is the meaning of tribulation? Does it refer mainly to the struggles of living in a fallen world?
3. How do we know from Scripture that God uses pressure for the benefit of His children?
4. What strategies do you use to escape or mitigate tribulation (pressure)?
5. How is the warning of coming suffering an encouragement to the church in Smyrna? How is it encouraging to the church today?
6. What is the significance of the time of tribulation being limited to "10 days"? What biblical picture does it refer back to? What is the promise of that story?
7. How are fear and faith related to one another?
8. How does Jesus Himself give us hope for when we have caved to pressure? Where does the power come from to step into fear and remain faithful the next time?
9. When we remain faithful and then suffer the consequences from "the world," does the promise of the "crown of life" encourage us to hold fast? What is significant about the second death? (Mark 8:36)