

Spring: 2:42 Life Group Week 2

“Smyrna: Crushed Fragrance”

Revelation 2:8-11

Getting to know each other:

- 1.) C.S. Lewis once said, “God whispers to us in our pleasures, He speaks to us in our conscience, but God shouts to us in our pain. Suffering is God’s megaphone to arouse a deaf world.” We learn many valuable lessons through our experiences, especially painful ones. Can you recall some difficult times when God has spoken loud and clear to your heart?

- 2.) Our own trials can give us compassion and empathy for others who are going through similar difficulties. Can you think of any examples of how the Lord has used you to minister to others who were facing what you went through?

Getting into the Word:

- 3.) As we see with the church of Smyrna, suffering and hardship often accompany followers of Jesus Christ. We need to not just hope that trials don’t happen to us, but we need to be prepared when they do come upon us. How can the following verses help prepare us to face any suffering or difficulties that come our way? Rom 5:1–5; Heb 10:24 & 25; 2Tim 3:12–15; 2Cor4:16–18; John 16:33; Heb 13:5 & 6; Ps 142.

- 4.) The believers in Smyrna were very poor financially and materially. But Jesus tells them, “You are rich.” What are the riches in Christ that all Christians possess, but the unsaved cannot have apart from Christ? (Hint: Many can be found in Eph 1–3)

“He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.” –Jesus