

“Thankful for the Eleventh Hour”

Revelation 2:8-11

Take-Home Truth: *The Bible teaches that suffering is controlled by God who will one day reward us with infinite joy.*

Christ-Connection: *Satan tests us, but God determines to keep us.*

Hook: *(Ice-breaker question. Get the group talking!)*

1. *Describe a time when you knew that you were about to go through something painful, but you had a proper perspective or outlook that helped you endure the pain. Share about this painful experience and about your helpful perspective that got you through.*

Engage: *(Observe the passage and engage with the text)*

2. *As a group, read Revelation 2:8-11 aloud. Make observations. Discuss and unpack these verses together.*

3. *Why was there no rebuke or warning for this church? How does this apply to the church today?*

Reflect: *(Reflect upon the key take-aways from the sermon)*

4. *Richard shared promises of hope in suffering (God’s control, the resurrection, empathy), where do you find hope in suffering?*

5. *Knowing God puts a boundary around your suffering, how does this help you to endure and what does this say about God’s nature?*

Respond: *(Apply the truths of God's Word to your heart, affections, and actions)*

6. *How does knowing Jesus suffered bring comfort to you as you suffer?*

7. *How does knowing Jesus suffered affect your praying?*

8. *How does knowing Jesus suffered affect your witness?*