

## Understanding & Embracing Suffering

### #2: God's Promises about Suffering

Revelation 2:8-10

**I know your afflictions and your poverty . . . Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. . . Be faithful, even to the point of death. (Rev 2:8-10 NIV)**

#### **A) Promise #1: He knows & even experiences your suffering**

You are never doing anything alone in this life. (Heb 13:5; Ps 139)

When we suffer, Jesus suffers too. (Acts 9:4-5)

#### **B) Promise #2: He controls your suffering**

Everything in your life is filtered by God (1 Cor 10:13; Matt 10:28-31)

God always sets you up to win (2 Cor 2:14).

#### **C) Promise #3: All of a Christian's suffering is temporary (1 Pet 5:10; Rev 21:1-4).**

#### **D) Command #1: Do not be afraid**

#### **E) Command #2: Be faithful (John 13:2-5).**

#### **Discussion ?'s**

- 1) How does Jesus' words in Acts 9:4-5 mean for our suffering?
- 2) How does 1 Corinthians 10:13 affect our view of suffering?
- 3) How does 2 Corinthians 2:14 affect our view of suffering?
- 4) Have you experienced 1 Peter 5:10 in a difficulty? What happened?
- 5) What was most meaningful to you about the Sunday message?