



REVELATION

RENOVATE, RENEW, RECLAIM,
RECREATE, RECYCLE AND REUSE.



Revelation - Start at Home : Smyrna

Pastor James Heyward

The message this week dealt with how we respond under intense pressure and persecution. What happens when you are squeezed? How do you respond to the tough stuff in life? Jesus' revelation message to the suffering church in Smyrna is a message for all of us. Jesus reminds them that He is near to those hurting. He encourages them to fear nothing and to not quit.

“Now write down everything you see: things that are, things about to be.” -Revelation 1:17 (MSG)

Read Revelation 2:8-11 (Message). Jesus' message to the suffering church is to “look up and look out”, however, our human inclination is to focus on the situation when we are suffering.

1. What is your initial response when you are in an unpleasant situation?

Jesus reminds us that He sees us and He hears us.

Revelation 2:9

2. What does that mean to you that Jesus ‘sees and hears’ us in the midst of our suffering?

Jesus encourages us to fear nothing.

Revelation 2:10a

3. How can we ‘fear nothing’? What does that mean to you?

4. How have you dealt with fear in your own life?

Jesus tells us not to quit.

Revelation 2:10b

5. How have you dealt with the inclination to quit? Are you dealing with the inclination to quit right now?

6. We are better able to ‘not quit’ if we have made that decision before the struggles arise. Have you made that decision to be faithful no matter what? If not, what might be keeping you from making that decision?

Jesus promises a Life-Crown for those who remain faithful.

Revelation 2:10b

7. Suffering is not the end of the story; we will receive a crown of life. How does this encourage you?

Oftentimes suffering makes no sense. We have to remember we live in a fallen world. The answers and understanding are often not of this earth.

Family Connect Discussion Starter:

Discuss what it means that God is faithful, even when things do not go the way we expect or want. Talk about ways your family can be faithful even during unpleasant times.