Life Group Questions

"Suffering For The Gospel”

2 Timothy 2:8-13

**Discussion Questions 💬**

**Pastor Matt discusses Paul writing from prison yet still encouraging Timothy. How can someone maintain hope and encourage others while experiencing their own suffering?**

* Paul was bound in prison but emphasized that while he was bound, the gospel was not bound. He continued to encourage Timothy despite his circumstances.
* When have you been able to encourage someone else during your own difficult season, and what allowed you to do that?

**The sermon discusses how we must 'die to ourselves' to find new life in Christ. What does this practically look like in everyday life?**

* Paul writes in 2 Timothy 2:11 'if we died with him, we will also live with him' and Pastor Matt explained this means putting our old self to death to walk in newness of life.
* What specific areas of your life do you find most challenging to 'die to self' and surrender to God's control?

**How does understanding that suffering is part of the Christian life (as Jesus said in John 16) change how we view and respond to difficult seasons?**

* Pastor Matt emphasized that Jesus never promised freedom from suffering but rather said we would have suffering in this world while encouraging us to be courageous because He has overcome.
* How has your perspective on suffering changed as you've grown in your faith?

**The sermon discusses how God's grace is greater than our failures, doubts, and even unbelief. Why is this truth particularly important during times of suffering?**

* Pastor Matt referenced 2 Timothy 2:13 which states 'if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.'
* When have you experienced God's faithfulness despite your own doubts or struggles with faith?

**How can our personal suffering become a tool for ministry to others, and what does that look like in practice?**

* Pastor Matt discussed how Paul's imprisonment didn't stop the gospel's spread and suggested our own suffering could be used by God for ministry purposes.
* What past difficulty in your life has God used to help you connect with and minister to others?

## **Prayer 🙏**

* Begin with asking group members if they have specific prayer requests they need to share.
* Ask God to provide strength and hope to endure any challenging situations members may face this week.
* Pray for the ability to truly trust in Christ through difficult seasons.
* Seek God's wisdom in surrendering any personal struggles or doubts to Him.