

Sermon Discussion Questions for Small Groups

Week of March 11th

Sermon Titled: "Through Many Tribulations "

Open in Prayer. Read Acts 14:1-28.

As you begin, ask the group: How would you summarize the main points of the sermon? What stood out to you about the sermon? What questions did you have? What challenged you?

Note for the discussion and application questions: choose a couple of the questions below to discuss and go deeper with the sermon together.

Application & Discussion Questions

1. When you hear persecution, what do you hear or think?
2. How would you define persecution? What are times when you have been persecuted for your faith?
3. Discuss this statement as a group: persecution isn't something we seek, but we find as we faithfully follow Christ. Are there places in your life that you shy away from boldness for Christ? If so, why?
4. **What keeps us from caring about the persecuted church?**
5. Persecution can strengthen the church. Think of places in the New Testament where this is true. What are present day examples?
6. The climax of Acts 14 is not what Paul and Barnabus suffered, but what God did (v. 27). What does Western culture tend to emphasize or value in stories? How can we cultivate a more God-centered emphasis to our stories and ministry efforts?

Prayer Focus

Each month, 255 Christians are killed for their faith, 104 Christians are abducted and 66 churches are attacked¹. Prayer is one way to care for the persecuted church.

Take time to pray for one of these stories in your group time:
<https://www.opendoorsusa.org/take-action/pray/>

¹ Opendoorsusa.org

