



STUDY GUIDE

RECALIBRATE 1.14.2018

[set up]

What are you thankful for this week?

What are you struggling with this week?

Who has been a person in your life who is an example of someone who has demonstrated fearlessness and faithfulness in spite of some form of persecution? How did you know that they were fearless? How did you know they were faithful? How did they show it? Maintain it? What was their “secret sauce”?

As you consider your own fearlessness and faithfulness in light of his/hers, how would you grade yourself as one who is truly fearless and faithful on a scale of 1-10, 10 being high?

In the message, we learned that persecution is on a continuum. Some persecution is normal, some is moderate, and some is extreme. Brainstorm with the group, writing down 3-5 forms of persecution in each category. Ask, “Which have you experienced? How? Which are you currently experiencing? How?”

[digging deeper]

Ask one person to read Revelation 2:8-11 out loud while everyone reads along.

Ask another person to read the passage out loud.

Without looking at the Bible, a third person retells the passage in his/her own words again. As a group, others will fill in what's missing.

Ask, “What does this passage teach about Jesus, His character, and His faithfulness to those who are suffering?” Record answers on a large Post-it.

Ask, “What does this passage teach about obedience, about how we are to live? What are some ways we can demonstrate fearlessness? What are some ways we can demonstrate faithfulness?”

Read Matthew 5:10-12, John 15:20, 2 Timothy 3:12, 1 Peter 4:12-14, Hebrews 12:3, and Romans 8:35-37. How can these truths help believers be more fearless and faithful?

[living it out]

Ask, “In light of what we now know about Revelation 2:8-11, what risk is God calling you to take this week? How does God want you to obey this Scripture?” Encourage everyone to write an “I will” statement. Then, record all the “I will” statements on a large Post-it.

Ask the group, “Which of these statements is something that you might need to consider for your own life? Why?”

Ask, “Who will you share these truths with this week? How will you be ‘all in’ and live this ‘out loud’ this week? Who do you know who needs to hear this?”

Take prayer requests by asking, “In this upcoming week, what is going to be a challenge for you?” Close your time in prayer for one another.