

# PREACHING CURRICULUM

## Undying Love! Revelation 2:1-11

*'... meditating on how you've offended God and the fact that He has forgiven you helps us to forgive those who've offended us...'*

*'...learning from blind-spots convicts us and calls for repentance, redeeming more of this life, given to us by God, for His ultimate glory...'*

### 1 REVIEW THE SERMON

LEADER NOTES: Encourage your members to pull out their notes and review the main points of the sermon. (9-12 mins)

#### Read Revelation 2:1-11

What were some of the commendations for the church at Ephesus? What was the conviction?

What was at the core of the message to the church of Smyrna?

### 2 ASSESS YOUR LIFE

LEADER NOTES: Evaluate the condition of your lives in relation to the truth from God's Word. Encourage heart examination. (12-15 mins)

What spiritual blind spots has, or is God making you are aware of in your life?

Are you willing to let others speak into your life when they see your spiritual blind spots? What are some things that hinder you from acting on what others point out?

Which of the 2 Churches spoken about in this passage do you most relate to, and why?

Do you feel that God is warning you about upcoming trials like those of the church of Smyrna? If so, in what ways?

Since love is a verb, do you love others even when you don't "feel" loving? What can help us to do just that? How can choosing to love when you don't "feel" it affect your heart ?

### 3 APPLY THE TRUTH

LEADER NOTES: Create a list of ways to close the gap between your lives and the truth of the Bible. Be practical and intentional. (12-15 mins)

How is it possible that suffering is both normal and redemptive?

Are we prepared to be faithful unto death itself? How does being reminded that there is no promise of alleviation or ease, but rather the reminder that God reigns over life and death help?

Remember-Repent-Respond—How can remembering help lead you to repenting and responding in love?

### 4 COMMIT THIS WEEK

LEADER NOTES: Call your small group members to make a commitment and get the group working together to follow-up with each other. (9-12)

Will you turn away from the Western perspective that joy comes from ease and comfort that we somehow think we are entitled to it? Instead, will you set yourself to maintaining a love and a faithfulness like Christ first showed us?