



Jesus: Greater Than – Our Comfort

Date: Sunday 21st October 2018

Speakers: Ruth Page & Jeff Stamps

Key Verses: Colossians 1:24 – 2:3

Talk Summary

Paul challenges us in the concept that our suffering, when sharing the good news of Jesus, can build and serve the church. Paul draws us to the hope that in our suffering God isn't interested in helping us to simply feel better, rather he seeks to transform us from the inside out. Jesus works through our suffering, making us new creations who are united in love for one another and with Jesus.

Small Group Questions

- After reading the passage together, read this quote:

“The way of the cross is not a joyless road. It is a painful one, but it is a profoundly happy one. You can't escape pain; why not make it meaningful? When we choose the fleeting pleasures of comfort and security over the sacrifices and sufferings of missions and evangelism and ministry and love, we are choosing against our joy. God is calling us in this text to live for the sake of the good news of Jesus and to do that through suffering. Jesus chose suffering, it didn't just happen to him. He chose it as the way to form and perfect the church. Now he calls us to choose suffering. That is, he calls us to take up our cross and follow him, to deny ourselves and make sacrifices for the sake of presenting his suffering to the world and ministering to the church.” – John Piper

- What do you think about the idea that we are invited to choose suffering?
- What do you think about the idea that if we see our suffering as achieving something of eternal worth that it leads to a greater joy than our comfort or security has to offer?
- What holds us back from sharing our faith with those around us? How does our passage speak into those things?

To ponder or pray about this week

- Who are the people not following Jesus yet that you are intentionally and sacrificially investing in? Share their names and pray for them.
- Is anyone going through a particularly difficult time? Gather around them and pray.