

PART 2: Fueled by Relentless Faith DATE: 08-28-2022

START

In the book *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, Alexander had a bad day. Many of us can relate. We have had bad days, bad weeks, even bad months and years. Some of us are going through those times right now.

- What has been one of your bad days?
- When you have a bad day, or bad week, how do you work through it?
- How does your faith help you when you have a bad day?

READ

Revelation 2:10 (NIV)

"Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown."

THINK

When Jesus speaks to church in Smyrna, He knows the persecution and suffering that the church has experienced. He understands what they are experiencing and can relate to their suffering.

- How does knowing Jesus knows our suffering help us walk through our suffering?
- How does knowing Jesus suffered help us find solitude with Him in our suffering?

As we continue to experience suffering, Jesus calls us to remain faithful. To trust in Him, to have faith that He has suffered and enters into our suffering with us. To believe that He will do what He says He will do.

- How can you remain faithful in your suffering?
- How does the realization that Jesus defeated death help us through our suffering?
- How can you continue to fuel a relentless faith in your life?

PRAY

"God, when I face suffering in my life and the struggles that come with it. Help me to have faith to lean into your faithfulness knowing that you are present with me and will see me through."

ACT

This week, reflect on the presence of Jesus in your life. How is He present in your suffering? How is He walking with you in the midst of your struggles? Take comfort that He has defeated death and continues to live and reign.

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