



MISSION CREEK

Alliance Church

I THESSALONIANS 1:4-10 SUFFERING

- 1. When you hear the word *suffering*, what emotions or assumptions immediately come up for you?**
How does the sermon challenge or reshape the way you typically think about suffering in the Christian life?
- 2. Paul says the Thessalonian church became a model because of *how* they followed Jesus in suffering, not because of programs or success.**
What do you think that says about what faithfulness really looks like today?
- 3. The sermon distinguishes between “Christian suffering” and suffering that comes from being unwise or ungracious.**
Can you think of a time when it was hard to tell the difference in your own life? What helped (or could have helped) you discern that?
- 4. Where are you currently experiencing pressure (*thlipsis*)—whether from following Jesus, from hardship, or from life in general?**
How are you responding to that pressure right now?
- 5. The sermon says suffering is often the context where disciples are formed.**
Looking back, can you identify a season of difficulty that God used to shape your faith, character, or obedience?
- 6. Paul notes that the Thessalonians held onto joy and worship even in suffering.**
What practices or habits help you stay connected to God when life is painful or confusing?
- 7. The sermon emphasizes that Christians are not meant to suffer alone.**
What would it look like for this group to more intentionally “bear one another’s burdens” in this season?