

Discovery Service Order and Message Outline



WELCOME TO CEC Pastor Phill and Sara
 WORSHIP VIDEO Holy Holy (Lift up his name)
 MEDIA Taher's story
 PRAYER
 UPDATES Pastor Phill and Sara
 WORSHIP VIDEO..... It was finished upon that Cross
 BIBLE READING 1 Peter 4:12-19
 MESSAGE Taught by Pastor Phill
 WORSHIP VIDEO..... Stand up stand up for Jesus



**The Search for Happiness-8
 How to face harassment.
 1 Peter 4:12-19**

"Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them! Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:10-12 TEV/NIV

"Remember those who are in prison as if you were in prison with them. Remember those who are suffering, as though you were suffering as they are." Hebrews 13:3 TEV

"Anyone who belongs to Christ Jesus and wants to live right WILL have trouble from others." 2 Timothy 3:12 CEV

WHAT TO REMEMBER:

1. Opposition can make me more like _____.

"When the world hates you, remember it hated me before it hated you. The world would love you if you belonged to it, but you don't. I chose you to come out of the world, and so it hates you. Do you remember what I told you? 'A servant is not greater than the master.' Since they persecuted me, naturally they will persecute you." John 15:18-20 NLT

"The light from heaven came into the world, but they loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil." John 3:19 NLT

"If you're abused because of Christ, count yourself fortunate. It's the Spirit of God and his glory in you that brought you to the notice of others." 1 Peter 4:14 MSG

2. Opposition will deepen my _____.

"These trials are only to test your faith, to show that it is strong and pure. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—and your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold. So if your faith remains strong after being tried by fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honour on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world." 1 Peter 1:7 NLT

3. Opposition will give me _____.

"Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:12 NIV

WHAT TO DO:

1. Don't be _____.

"Dear friends, don't be surprised or shocked when you go through painful trials that are like walking through fire, as though something unusual is happening to you." 1 Peter 4:12 CEV/TEV

2. Don't be _____.

"If you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it, so don't be afraid and don't worry! Instead, worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it." 1 Peter 3:14-15 NLT

3. Don't be _____.

"It is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Instead, thank God for the privilege of being called by his name!" 1 Peter 4:16 NLT

"Take a firm stand against Satan and be strong in your faith. Remember that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are going through the same kind of suffering you are." 1 Peter 5:9 NLT

"Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong." 1 Peter 3:17 NLT

4. Recognize the _____ of the opposition.

"We're not fighting against human beings, but against wicked spiritual forces in the heavenly realm..." Ephesians 6:12 TEV

"Stay away from stupid and senseless arguments. These only lead to trouble. God's servants must never quarrel. (Instead) be kind to everyone... and be patient. Be humble when you correct people who oppose you... they've been trapped by the devil, and he makes them obey him, but God may help them escape." 2 Timothy 2:23-26 CEV

"When they hurled their insults at him, Jesus did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to God who judges justly." 1 Peter 2:23 NIV

"They called him every name in the book and he said nothing back. He suffered in silence, content to let God set things right." 1 Peter 2:23 MSG

5. Refuse to _____.

"Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord." Romans 12:17-19 NIV

6. Respond with a _____.

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21 ESV

"LOVE your enemies! DO GOOD to those who hate you. BLESS those who curse you. PRAY for those who hurt you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn the other cheek." Luke 6:27b-29a NLT

"If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." Mark 8:38 NIV

"Those who declare publicly that they belong to me, I will do the same for them before my Father in heaven!" Matthew 10:38 TEV



1. Read John 15:18-20 and put it into your own words. How might opposition make believers more like Jesus?
2. Read John 3:19, which is in the account of Jesus speaking to Nicodemus at night. What – or Who – is the Light? Why did men love the darkness rather than the Light? What is God's judgment of these people according to Jesus?
3. Discuss in your group how you feel about the persecution of Christians around the world. How have you or anyone close to you been impacted by disapproval or rejection because of your faith? Next read John 12:24 and Matthew 5:10-12. Discuss how these verses give you hope and help you more confidently and fearlessly proclaim your Christian faith as a result.
4. Ephesians 6:12 teaches believers that our battle is not against flesh and blood – but rather against "spiritual forces in the heavenly realm!" How might this truth affect our compassion for – and witness to – people who oppose our faith?
5. What can we learn from 2 Timothy 2:23-26 about handling opposition to faith in Christ? How do these verses say we should witness to others, and how might this approach help those who are trapped by the devil?
6. Read Romans 12:17-19 and discuss what these verses say about retaliation. Give real-life examples of how you might handle persecution based on Jesus' example in 1 Peter 2:23.

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You Tube

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