

THE VENGEANCE OF JESUS

2 Thessalonians 1:3-10

PAT NEMMERS

January 31, 2021

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- *What is your favorite movie or book sequel? What makes that one so good?*
- *Why do you think sequels often disappoint?*

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time you met. Anything you need to follow up on as a group?
- **Review** the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat uncovered three great and awful expectations in the first chapter of this sequel letter.**

1. God reserves His greatest praise for those who endure righteously during difficult times (2 Thessalonians 1:3-7a)

- Think back over the last year or so. As a group, quickly brainstorm some of the struggles that you have gone through. Make a quick list.
- Pick an emoji below that illustrates how "righteously" you endured during those difficult times.



- Looking back, how do you wish you had responded over the last year instead? What can you do right now to begin building that kind of response into your regular life in the future?

2. God reserves His greatest judgement for those who refuse to know God and obey His gospel (2 Thessalonians 1:6-9)

- Do you think it's possible to know God and not obey the gospel or vice versa? What does the rest of the New Testament say about people that claim to know God, but don't obey Him?
- What about you? What evidence is there in your life that you truly know God AND obey Him?
- In Luke 16:19-31, Jesus tells the story of the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man, who was in Hell, asked for relief, not for a relationship with God.
 - How does this story impact your own thinking about people who don't know Jesus today?
- In times of struggle or difficulty, do you find yourself asking more for relief **or** for a deeper relationship with Him?

3. God reserves His greatest glory for those who love Jesus and long for His appearing (2 Thessalonians 1:10)

- Who do you know that seems to long for Jesus to come back? What is it about their lives that intrigues you?
- What could you do this week to cultivate a greater longing for the return of Jesus in your life?

"There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, in the end, 'Thy will be done.'" - C.S. Lewis

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your group will love Jesus and long for Him to come back.

