

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

Smyrna: Growing In Suffering

Smyrna is one of the 7 Churches mentioned in Revelation. This small body of spirit-filled believers faced serious poverty, and yet they were commended by the Lord Jesus because they were spiritually rich. They were also severely persecuted by Rome and slandered by the Jews for the sake of Christ.

Unlike other churches, they were not admonished or rebuked by the Lord Jesus, but they did receive some special words of encouragement. He reminded them of His own, heavenly status, and that He is the eternal One. He reminded the saints in Smyrna that He is their living Lord, in Whom are the words of eternal life. "I am the First and the Last", He told them. "I am the One Who was dead and came to life."

He is from everlasting to everlasting, He is the Author and Finisher of our faith, He is the Alpha and Omega, the First and Last. And when the Christians in Smyrna received confirmation that Jesus was with them in every eventuality of life, including their poverty and pain, it must have rejoiced their soul. He was dead, but He rose from the dead and lives forevermore, and His death secured life for all who believe on His name, and nothing can take away that eternal privilege.

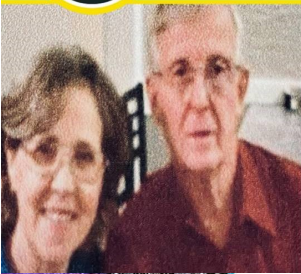
This little group loved their Lord, but were to face even greater persecution in the days ahead. "Do not fear what you are about to suffer", Christ wrote to His little flock, "Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Living faithfully for the Lord, does not exempt us from persecution. Paul tells us, "all who live godly lives will suffer persecution." But Jesus knows exactly what we will face and for how long. He has promised to be with us, just as He promised to be with these saints in Smyrna. "Do not fear what you are about to suffer", are His reassuring words. Fear not and stand firm in the faith!

Resource: dailyverse.knowing-jesus.com

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Arthur and Eloise MacArthur | Laos



- PRAISE**
- The Lord opened the doors for a Lao Pastor training in early 2023. Al Doomy and Arthur were able to teach lessons on "The Pastor and His Church."
 - In September 2023, Arthur, Al and Joy Doomy were able to host a Lao Couples Retreat with the focus of Love and Respect in the Marriage and the home.
 - Many ministries are continuing to move forward with national leaders, these local leaders are facilitating evangelistic outreach and baptisms are being held.
- PRAY**
- Pray for continued wisdom in Lao trainings.
 - Pray for the financial needs of the Lao ministry, pastors, and believers.
 - Pray for good health for Arthur and Eloise.

KEY VERSE

Revelation 2:10 (NKJV)

“Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Revelation 2:8-9; Job 23:8-10; Hebrews 2:18

Remember Jesus Knows And Understands Your Suffering

1. Jesus states in Revelation 2:9 *“I know your works, tribulation, and poverty.”* What comfort is He offering us as believers in this verse?
2. What is Hebrews 2:18 telling us about Jesus and His experience with , temptation? How does this speak to us in regard to our own temptations?

Tuesday: Revelation 2:9a; James 2:5; II Corinthians 5:7

Keep Trusting God

3. Jesus makes the statement *“I know your poverty (but you are rich) ...”* in Revelation 2:9a. What “riches” is He referring to?
4. II Corinthians 5:7 calls us to *“walk by faith, not by sight.”* What is this teaching us about leaning on our own understanding versus trusting in God?

Wednesday: Revelation 2:10a; Psalm 3:5-6

Do Not Be Afraid

5. What does Revelation 2:10a tell us about being afraid?
6. Psalm 3:6 states *“I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me.”* Are YOU achieving this level of trust in God?

Thursday: Revelation 2:10b; I Peter 1:6-7; I Corinthians 1:9

Be Faithful

7. What level of faith are the circumstances of Revelation 2:10b calling us to as believers? We are to be *“be faithful”* even *“until _____.”*
8. I Peter 1:7 says we shall ultimately *“be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”* But only after going through what process?
9. As we enter into fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ what are we then called to “share in” along with him.

Friday: Revelation 2:10c-11; James 1:12; II Corinthians 4:17

Focus On Heaven

10. In Revelation 2:10c we are promised *“the crown of life.”* What are we called to *“overcome”* to avoid the *“second death”* in verse 11?
11. What promise has been made to those of us who *“endure temptation”*? What future does God’s kingdom hold for us who do (James 1:12)?
12. II Corinthians 4:17 refers to *“our light affliction, which is but for a moment.”* How well are YOU enduring these afflictions in your walk?