

Questions

11.07.21

These opening questions may be too personal, perhaps people should just personally consider the answers to them.

What is the most difficult situation that your faith has put you in?

Have you ever had a time when you felt threatened or uneasy because of your faith?

Were those feelings coming mostly from inside you or outside you?

In Matt. 5.11, Jesus says “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.”

This makes it sound like persecution is inevitable for followers of Jesus.

Today’s passage starts out saying “If the world hates you...” (John 15.18) If we take this phrase by itself and compare it Matt 5, do you these passages say essentially the same thing or slightly different things?

When we read the whole passage (John 15.18-25) does your understanding change?

Is our form of Christianity deficient if we are not persecuted?

Why or why not?

What should we be thinking/feeling about our lack of persecution? Should we be surprised, grateful, concerned, _____?

Do you agree with Rob’s statement that “If Jesus says that if we follow him closely, we will be persecuted?”

What does that mean for American Christianity? Is this a fair connection? Why or why not?

What should we do?

How is being stuck in the middle good news?

What did you think about Rob’s statement about the absence of hate in the Father?

Share and Prayer