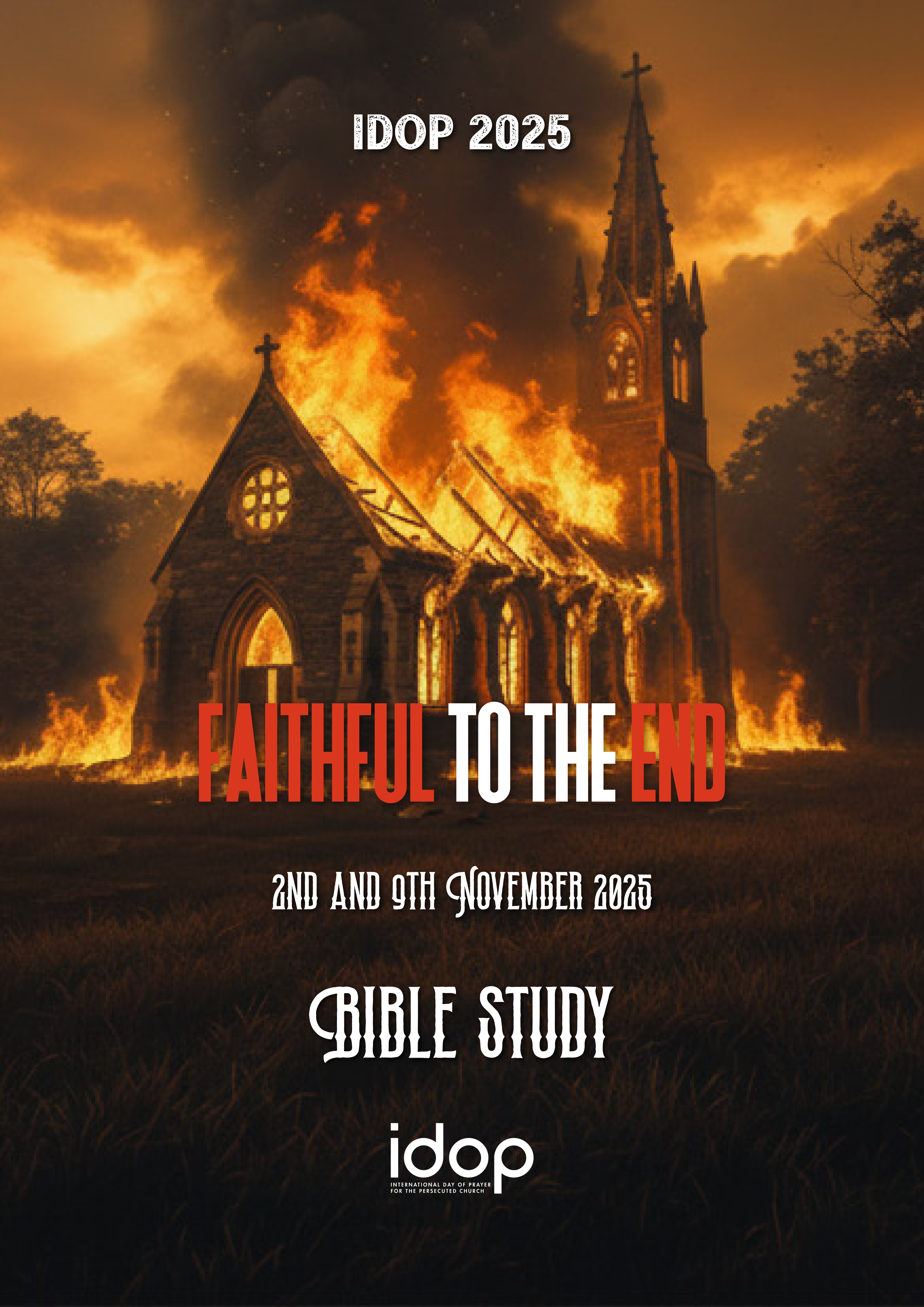


A dramatic photograph of a Gothic-style church engulfed in intense orange and yellow flames at night. The church has a tall steeple with a cross on top. The fire is thick and billowing, obscuring parts of the building. The background is a dark, cloudy night sky.

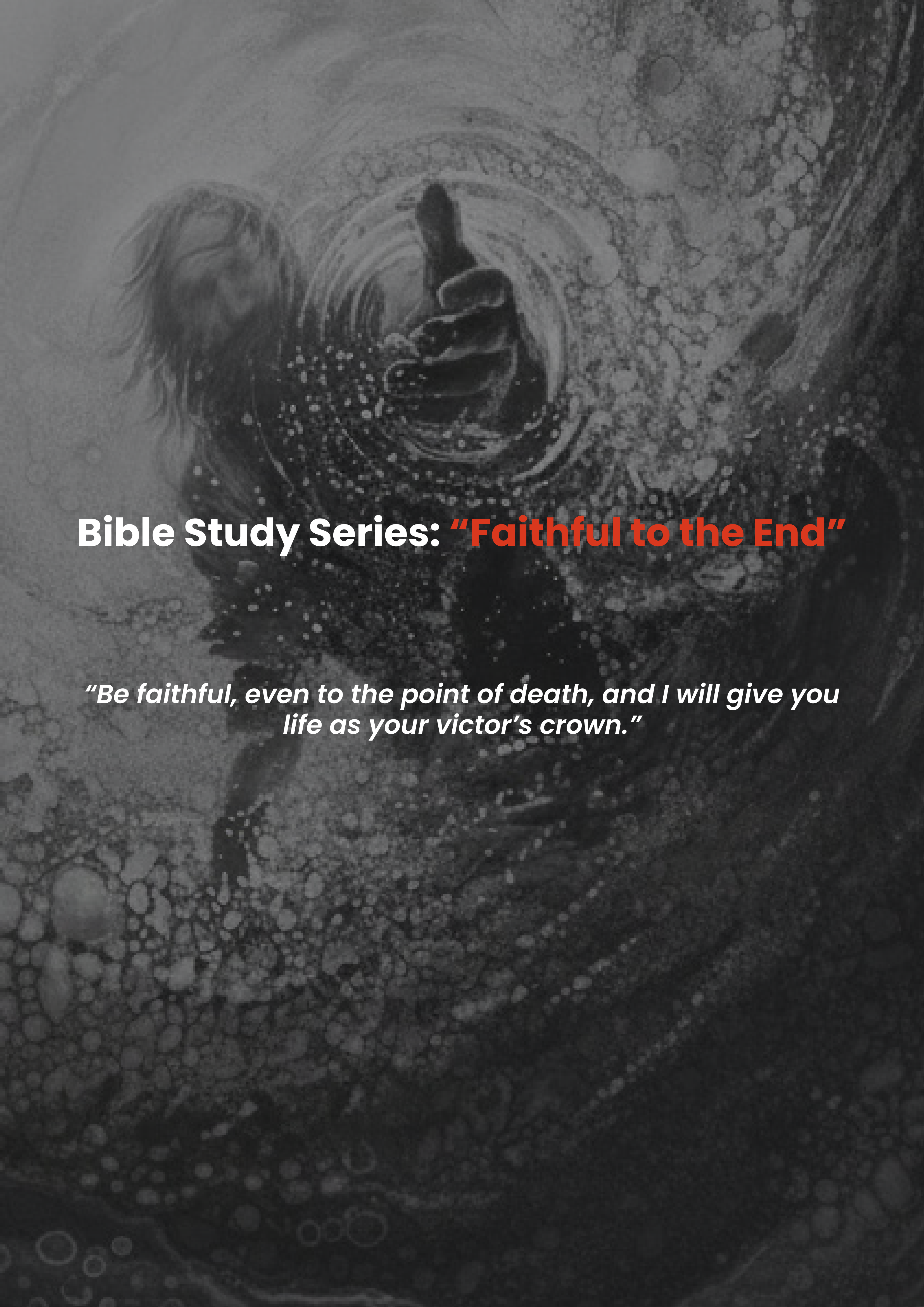
IDOP 2025

FAITHFUL TO THE END

2ND AND 9TH NOVEMBER 2025

BIBLE STUDY

idop
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH



Bible Study Series: “Faithful to the End”

*“Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you
life as your victor’s crown.”*

Faith Tested

Passage: Revelation 2:8–11

Introduction:

The church in Smyrna stands as one of the most remarkable congregations in Scripture. Poor in possessions but rich in faith, they faced fierce hostility for their allegiance to Christ. To these suffering believers, the risen Lord did not promise relief, but faithfulness. He assured them that He knew their trials, their poverty, their pain — and that none of it was wasted. Faith is tested not to destroy us, but to prove that our hope is real.

Key Points:

- **Christ's knowledge of suffering:** "I know your afflictions and your poverty." The Lord of glory walks with His persecuted people. No tear is unseen, no pain unnoticed.
- **Faith refined in fire:** The Smyrnan believers were not told to escape the trial, but to endure it faithfully. In persecution, God purifies our devotion.
- **Eternal perspective:** The "crown of life" is not a metaphor for earthly triumph, but for the unending joy of life in Christ beyond death.

Discussion Questions:

- What does it mean that Jesus knows our afflictions?
- Why is faithfulness more precious to God than comfort or safety?
- How might we "remember" the persecuted in a way that strengthens our own faith?

Closing Prayer:

Lord Jesus, You who were faithful unto death, teach us to trust You in every trial. Strengthen those who suffer for Your name today. May their endurance and our prayers together bear witness to Your eternal victory. Amen.

Faith Strengthened

Passage: 2 Corinthians 4:7–10

Introduction:

The apostle Paul, no stranger to persecution, describes the believer as a fragile vessel carrying an incomparable treasure — the glory of Christ. Our weakness magnifies His strength. When persecution strips away comfort and security, what remains is the sufficiency of Christ alone. This is the paradox of Christian endurance: brokenness becomes the place where divine power is revealed.

Key Points:

- **The treasure within:** Our hope and courage are not drawn from human strength but from the indwelling presence of Christ.
- **Weakness as witness:** The endurance of the persecuted Church testifies that the gospel is true and powerful even when everything else is taken away.
- **Suffering and resurrection:** Each trial we bear for Christ becomes a participation in His death — and a foretaste of His resurrection life.

Discussion Questions:

- How does our fragility reveal the power of God?
- What stories of faithful endurance inspire you to persevere?
- How can your prayers or actions strengthen believers who face persecution?

Closing Prayer:

Father, we thank You that Your strength is made perfect in our weakness. Uphold those who are pressed but not crushed, persecuted but not abandoned. Let Your resurrection power sustain them — and us — to the very end. Amen.

Faith Triumphant

Passage: Hebrews 12:1–3

Introduction:

The life of faith is not a sprint but a long, sometimes painful race. The writer to the Hebrews calls us to endurance, inspired by the countless witnesses who have gone before — men and women who remained faithful even when it cost them everything. At the center stands Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who endured the cross for the joy set before Him. His victory assures us that suffering will never have the last word.

Key Points:

- **Fix your eyes on Jesus:** Faithfulness flows from focus. When our gaze is fixed on Christ, we find courage to run our race well.
- **Encouraged by witnesses:** The faith of persecuted believers today joins the great cloud of witnesses, reminding us that the story of perseverance continues.
- **Endurance with hope:** The crown of life is certain. Every act of faithfulness — seen or unseen — moves us closer to eternal joy with Him.

Discussion Questions:

- What hinders you from running the race with endurance?
- Who in your life or in Church history has modeled “faithful to the end”?
- How can your community keep persecuted believers at the center of your worship and intercession?

Closing Prayer:

Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, keep our eyes fixed on You. Strengthen all who suffer for Your name, and teach us to run with endurance until the day we see You crowned in glory. May we, too, be found faithful to the end. Amen.



Organised by the World Evangelical Alliance, the IDOP is an annual, global event that unites Christians in prayer for the persecuted Church.

