Let's Face It

A Series On Easter & Suffering

No Turning Back - March 22

- Ice Breaker Question: Are you the kind of person who tackles problems head on, or do you often look for the easy way out?
- Put yourself in the disciples shoes… After a missionary journey, feeding the 5,000, and Peter's confession of Jesus as the Christ; how would you respond to Jesus' news in Luke 9:21-24?
- After seeing the transfiguration and Jesus' miracle of healing a demon-possessed boy, how do the disciples respond to Jesus' plan in Luke 9:43-46?
- Knowing what would happen in Jerusalem, what do you think of Jesus' resolve in Luke 9:51,53?
- Are we called to have that same resolve? Consider Luke 9:57-62

Face the Music - March 29

- Ice Breaker Question: People will always have an opinion. Whose opinions and criticisms matter most to you?
- Why did the following characters respond as they did to Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem for the Passover:
    - Friends - Mary, Lazarus, and Martha - John 12:1-3
    - Religious Leaders - The Chief Priests - John 12:9-11
    - Bystanders - The Large Crowd gathered for the Feast - John 12:12-15
    - Followers - The Disciples - John 12:16
    - Fans - Those who witnessed Lazarus' Resurrection - John 12:17-18
    - Rule Followers - The Pharisees - John 12:19
    - Outsiders - The Greeks - John 12:20-21
    - Influencers - The Authorities - John 12:42-43
- Knowing that God is the ultimate judge, how are we to view our life? Consider John 12:23-32.

A Future Joy - April 6

- Ice Breaker Question: What are some things you find difficult in the moment, but beneficial in the long run? Why is a future perspective helpful in a moment of struggle?
- How did Jesus' followers respond to the resurrection in Mark 16:9-14? Based on their response, did they have an expectation of future hope?
- Did Jesus know He would rise again? Consider Matthew 16:21; Mark 8:31; Luke 9:22.
- Cheer and delight don't seem to fit the scene of the cross. What is the *joy set before Him*, that Jesus had his sights on in Hebrews 12:2? Consider also Philippians 2:9-10; Isaiah 53:11; Matthew 25:21;1 Peter 1:11.
- How can we face suffering in this life with that same eternal life perspective?