Sermon Discussion Questions January 24, 2021

Special Note: In light of Revelation 1:3, please read the passage for this week's study questions aloud as a group before going through the questions.

- 1. Pastor Jim, in his introduction, gave the scenario of someone who is being deceived without realizing it and the struggles that could be had by people from the outside looking in. Is there anyone in your life that this story resonates with? How have you handled the situation and friend/family member who's being deceived? Have you ever been the person that's been deceived?
- 2. Read together Matthew 24:15-25. The abomination that causes desolation will happen when a person or being sets themselves up as the Messiah and demands to be worshiped. What are the three names this person/being is referred to in scripture? (See 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4; 1 John 2:18-19; Revelation 11:7) What event begins with this person setting himself up for worship in God's temple?
- 3. Read together 2 Thessalonians 2:5-12 as well as Revelation 9:20-21. In what ways will people be deceived by this person/being who try to come as Messiah? In each instance, what did the people fail to do when encountered with the lies of this person/being?
- 4. Revelation 11:7-12 speaks of the death and resurrection of the two witnesses. What does their death and resurrection symbolize? Why is this important for the witness of Jesus?
- 5. Referencing back to question 1 in light of the response today of being a witness and suffering for God, how can you come alongside that friend/family member who may be deceived? Has God called you to witness to them or suffer with them?
- 6. Spend time praying for the individuals in your lives who may be deceived and for the courage to be a witness to or to suffer alongside them.