

Topic: “Following the Crucified One”

1) Paul paid the price

- 2 Timothy 1:8,15; 3:11-12
- *“Hostility to the cross is the leading characteristic of the world.”* – Ernst Kasemann

2) Ministry in the Spirit means suffering

- Suffering is a part of God’s plan for life-giving leaders and for all who follow Jesus
- Matthew 5:10-12; I Corinthians 2:14; 4:9-13

3) Our suffering reveals the Saviour

- 2 Corinthians 4:7-11
- Failure to suffer is a failure to model the life-giving death of Jesus
- 2 Thessalonians 1:5
- 2 Timothy 18:11-12
- Suffering is a standard for how to know we are on the right road as Christians
- 2 Timothy 3:12

4) I.C.F.D. – *Incredible capacity for disappointment*

- Pain and opposition are extremely discouraging
- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9,16-17
- 2 Corinthians 6:11
- 2 Corinthians 11:24
- 2 Corinthians 11:25

Questions to ponder...

1. What will it cost you if you really go for it?
2. What opposition do you anticipate?
3. When you share with others do you include *“the offence of the cross”* in your conversation or have you filtered out the difficult parts of the gospel?