

Thrive Series: Living Out Jesus' Last Words

Week Five (2/13/22): Thriving Through Resistance

Recall the first time you received resistance from someone or a group because of your relationship with Jesus. How has that experience affected your interaction with people? It's important to remember that we thrive through resistance by both staying aligned with Jesus and through advance preparation. By doing this, how do you think you can more fully live out your faith?

Scripture Text: John 15:18 - 16:4

Sermon Points:

1. Thriving is not the absence of resistance, but rather growing *through* resistance
2. We thrive through resistance by staying *aligned with Jesus*
3. We thrive through resistance by *advance preparation*

Discussion Question Options:

- What's your instinctive response to resistance? Do you naturally rise up and get energized? Do you typically shrink back and comply? Do you instinctively look to work around it and avoid the resistance? Share an example.
- Where have you felt external resistance recently because of your relationship with Jesus? Does this increase or get easier the more you align yourself with the faith community and focus on "belonging to Jesus?" (Jn 15:19)
- Tim emphasized the importance of advance preparation before encountering moments of resistance. How are you reinforcing your life to bolster a commitment to bearing fruit? How are you keeping open eyes and perspective to see opposition coming without being caught off-guard?
- Pray for one another to prepare for and respond well to resistance this week. And as a reminder, how have Meals with Meaning been going? Let's continue this focus practice!