ZEALOUS Order of Service   February 16, 2020	
Greeting/Baptisms	
Worship Team	
Welcome	Tremble
Message	Executive Pastor Dr. Rusty Sieck Zealous (Week 2)
Offering/Announcements/Dismissal	

# **Patient in Affliction**

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:12-13 (NIV)

Zealous people are <u>empowered</u> from within by the <u>hope</u> we have in Christ.

We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves. 2 Corinthians 4:7 (NLT)

## Zealous people are vulnerable vessels containing a great treasure.

We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies. **2 Corinthians 4:8-10 (NLT)** 

# Zealous people know:

### Suffering is a normal part of a believer's life.

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted... 2 Timothy 3:12 (NIV)

See also: James 1:2-4 (NLT), Romans 5:1-5 (ESV)

#### God remains God through our suffering.

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (ESV)

# We can draw <u>closer</u> to God in and through suffering.

It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes. **Psalm 119:71 (ESV)** 

## **Training to Endure**

#### Prepare our Minds.

So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too... 1 Peter 4:1 (NLT)

#### Mature in our Faith.

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NLT)

# **Empathize** with the suffering of others.

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Romans 12:15-16 (NIV)

**Going deeper on your own:** Pastor Rusty taught us that part of being patient in affliction is developing a theology of suffering. Because suffering is a normal part of a believer's life, what are we going to believe about God when suffering happens? Start by memorizing 2 Corinthians 4:17, "For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!" Spend some time considering some of the "troubles" or suffering you have endured in the past or are currently enduring. Pray and ask God to help you see where and how He is working in the middle of those trials, and ask Him how you can bring Him glory through them.