

Foster City and SC – April 15, 2018



Uncomfortable Thoughts for Thoughtful Followers - Dan Reid and Dominic Rivera
Matthew 13:53 - 14:12

1. What kind of reactions do you see or experience as a follower of Christ? What is most uncomfortable for you as you consider wading into deeper waters to follow Christ?
2. Read Matthew 13: 53-57. Why do you think the people in Jesus' hometown could be both amazed and offended by him?
3. How are you personally confronted by unbelief where you live, work, and play? As followers of Christ, what does it look like to face up to that unbelief?
4. Read Matthew 14: 1-12. Besides having John executed, how else does Herod the Tetrarch illustrate spiritual darkness? What can we learn from John's example about protesting the spiritual darkness around us?
5. Dan asked, "Have we waded far enough into the deeper waters of following Christ to even have a tension with the spiritual darkness around us?" What uncomfortable place are we compelled to go to face up to the spiritual darkness around us?
6. What is it about John and other who follow Christ that both inspires and convicts us?
7. Read 2nd Timothy 3:12 and 1st Peter 4: 12-14. What insights do Paul and Peter have about the uncomfortable truths of following Christ?
8. As a follower of Christ, John's message was to "repent" and his method was to "speak the truth in love", and he modeled, "patiently suffering for that truth." Share with your group what you learn from John's life that helps you go deeper as a follower of Christ and face up to unbelief, spiritual darkness and potential persecution. And pray for each other.