Series: Refined
Passage: Psalm 66:8-12
Sunday: January 7, 2024

****We are entering into a new year with a new theme: Refined. We will seek to focus on this theme in various ways throughout the year. To start with, we have a sermon series to introduce this theme. The Refined sermon series will focus on the refinement process and figures in scripture that were refined in some way.**

Psalm 66:8-12 (ESV)

8 Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of his praise be heard,
9 who has kept our soul among the living
and has not let our feet slip.
10 For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.
11 You brought us into the net;
you laid a crushing burden on our backs;
12 you let men ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.

1. Do some research on the metal refinement process. How does the process work?

2. What does it mean to be refined in a spiritual sense?

3. Why does the Psalmist start this part of the Psalm with a call to bless God?

4. What purpose motivated God to allow His people to experience hardship in these verses?

5. How does the Psalmist depict the trials and tests faced by God's people? How do they resonate with the trials you face in your life?

6. Where did God take His people when He removed them from their situation of distress in verse 12? What kind of abundance have you experienced from the Lord?

7. How has this passage helped "REFINE" your faith?