

I've Written You a Letter... Jesus

REVELATION CHAPTERS 2 & 3

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Ephesus...Leaving Your First Love...Revelation 2:1-7

"But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first."

~ Jesus Christ, Revelation 2:4

Words of Wisdom

- *"Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent." ~The Lord Jesus, Revelation 2:5*
- *"If you commit yourself to the love of Christ, then that is how you run a straight race." ~ Eric Liddell"*
- *"Not everything is good...But all things work together for the good...because God is good, and everything will be made beautiful in it's time" ~ Peter-John Courson*

1. The Church in Ephesus...The Church in History to Today...YOU!

Scripture: Revelation 2:1-3, James 1:2-4, Revelation 2:7

- *The Church in Ephesus...*
- *The Church in History to Today...Have we left our first love?*
 - *What is the focus of many Churches today in America?*
- *You...Have YOU left your first love?*
 - *How do you know?*

2. "But I have this against you"...Jesus

Scripture: Revelation 2:4, 1John 2:15-17, James 2:5, Luke 18:18-27, Luke 10:38-42, Matthew 22:37-39

- *Not "Lost"...but "Left" (Abandoned)*

3. Jesus...is the Answer!

Scripture: Revelation 2:5, John 3:16-17, Psalm 103:8-12, 2Chronicles 7:14-16, Lamentations 3:21-26

- *Remember... John 3:16-17*
- *Repent... Psalm 103:8-12, 2Chronicles 7:14-16, Lamentations 3:21-26*
- *Start over... John 1:42/21:15-17, Jeremiah 29:11-14, Nehemiah 1:9*

4. A Life Application/Principle...

- *Your relationship with the Lord Jesus...*
- *Your relationship with Others...*

Group Discussion

1. READ *Psalm 103:8-12, 2Chronicles 7:14-16, Lamentations 3:21-26, Nehemiah 1:9...*

What do these verses tell us regarding God's attitude toward sin and repentance?

2. READ *Revelation 2:1-4...* Take a moment and think about this...

In Your Church and in Your Life, is your First Love still intact? What are the evidences in your life that the Lord Jesus Christ is still your First Love?

3. READ *Revelation 2:5...* "Remember...Repent...Start Over"!

- Have you left/abandoned the love you once had with the Lord Jesus? Is there a distance or feeling of complacency that has grown over time? What has stood in the way, or taken His place in your life?
 - What steps do you need to take in your life to restore and strengthen your relationship with the Lord Jesus?
- Identify any relationships in your life that have experienced you leaving/abandoning the love you once had...or have ceased to express that love...
 - How can you sincerely and practically apply the words of our Lord Jesus to that/those relationships and situations? What would it look like to apply it to your...
 - Marriage...
 - Relationship with your Children...
 - Relationship with other Family Members...
 - Relationship with Friends...

Prayer

Take a few moments to share any Prayer Requests with the men in your Group. Write down any requests and commit to pray for one another throughout the week.

(It's great to know that other guys are praying for the important things in your life...and it's great to be praying for the important things in their lives!)

How do the **5 Principles for the Christian Man**, help equip you to apply this to your life?

Discuss your answer with your group...

- Prayer (*Relationship*)
- God's Word (*Knowledge and Understanding*)
- Worship (*Adoration*)
- Fellowship (*Encouragement and Accountability*)
- Service (*Caring for Others, Action to your Belief*)