

# I've Written You a Letter... Jesus

REVELATION CHAPTERS 2 & 3

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Laodicea...Lukewarm and Uncommitted...Revelation 3:14-22

*"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."  
...Romans 12:2*

## Words of Wisdom

• "Jesus taught that your highest priority must be your relationship with Him. If anything detracts you from that relationship, that activity is not from God. God will not ask you to do something that hinders your relationship with Christ." ~ Henry Blackaby

• "One compromise here, another there and soon enough the so-called Christian and the man in the world look the same." ~A.W. Tozer

• "If God is not at the center of your life, something else is." ~ Timothy Keller

• "Lukewarm people don't really want to be saved from their sin; they want only to be saved from the penalty of their sin." ~ Francis Chan

*"The core problem isn't the fact that we're lukewarm, halfhearted, or stagnant Christians. The crux of it all is why we are this way, and it is because we have an inaccurate view of God. We see Him as a benevolent Being who is satisfied when people manage to fit Him into their lives in some small way. We forget that God never had an identity crisis. He knows that He's great and deserves to be the center of our lives." ~ Francis Chan*

## 1. The Church in Laodicea...God's Final Word to a Diabolical Strategy

- The Church in Ephesus...a Love left behind (internal opposition) ...AD 33-100
- The Church in Smyrna...Trials and Persecution (external opposition) ...AD 100-312
- The Church in Pergamos...Their trap of Compromise (lowering standards) ...AD 312-600, to today
- The Church in Thyatira...Corrupt Tolerance (allowing sin) ...AD 600-1517, to today
- The Church in Sardis...Spiritually Dead (relied on reputation from the past) ...1600 post Reformation-today
- The Church in Philadelphia...Faithful (trusting the Lord in everything, no matter what!) ...1700/1800-today
- The Church in Laodicea...Lukewarm (self-reliant, no need for God except in name) ...later 1900-today

## 2. Jesus Knows You...He Knows Your Heart...

Scripture: Revelation 3:15-17, Mark 10:17-22, Genesis 3:1-13, 1John 2:15-20

(Revelation 3:8, Revelation 3:1(B), 3:4, Revelation 2:19-20, Revelation 2:13-14, Revelation 2:9, Revelation 2:2-4, Psalm 139)

## 3. Love, Grace, and a New Life...

Scripture: Revelation 3:18-19, Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:16-17 (Revelation 3:3(a), Revelation 2:21, Revelation 2:16, Revelation 2:5)

## 4. Where do you Stand? No place for Lukewarm...

Scripture: Revelation 3:16, Revelation 3:10-11, Revelation 3:3(b), Revelation 2:23(b), Revelation 2:16, Revelation 2:5(b), 2Peter 3:9, 1John 2:1-6, Romans 12:2

## 5. It's Time to Decide...

Scripture: Revelation 3:19-20, Lamentations 3:21-25, Jeremiah 29:11-14, 2Chronicles 7:14, John 14:27

# Group Discussion

1. Why do you think that we, as people, are so naturally drawn to a “Lukewarm” relationship with God?

- Why do we have to be so intentional about the relationship we have with Him, and our commitment to faithfully follow and obey Him?

2. What does a “Lukewarm” life and attitude say to God regarding our Mindset (*the condition of our heart, how we think, and what we believe*) toward the Love, Grace, and New Life that the Lord Jesus offers us and gave His life for us to have?

(READ [Ephesians 2:1-10](#) and [John 3:16-17](#) as a reminder of what He has done for us)

3. Looking at the brief description of each of the 7-Churches (*page #1*), which one(s) do you most identify with, and why?

4. READ [Revelation 3:20](#), [John 14:15-18](#), [John 14:27](#), [John 15:4-5](#), [John 15:11](#), [Lamentations 3:21-25](#), [Jeremiah 29:11-14](#), and [2Chronicles 7:14](#) together...

- In what ways do these verses strengthen your Faith and Trust in the Lord, and cause you to walk in confidence that He is always with you in every situation?
- What action will you take to strengthen and maintain your commitment to be “All-In” with your decision to faithfully live as a follower of the Lord Jesus?

# 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*)