



Pastor Jason King // October 25, 2020

Letter to the Church in Laodicea

Revelation 3:14-21

Break the Ice: Invite your group to share about a time in your childhood where you learned a valuable lesson the hard way. It can be serious or humorous.

Start your study: Reread Revelation 3:14-21. This letter bears hearing again.

This week, Pastor Jason did the HARD work of presenting this letter, one that we can all probably see ourselves in from time to time. It's a tough thing to challenge the church who may have become lukewarm. There was a lot of discussion about vomit and how we do NOT want Jesus to throw up when He sees us as the church.

1. We are each given a **purpose** by God before we are even born. He knows us (see Psalm 139). And our God-given purpose is fueled by a life-giving **passion**. When we are lukewarm, we forfeit our God-given purpose and our life-giving passion.

DISCUSS

- What purpose do you feel you are here to accomplish?
- Are you living that out or have you been derailed?
- What could you do to get back on track with how God wants you to live out your purpose?
- What passion is ignited when you talk about living on purpose?
- How can you use your passions to amplify what you are already doing in living out your purpose?

2. Self-reliance was a hallmark of how the church in Laodicea was living out their faith (see Revelation 3:17).

DISCUSS

- Do you see any parallels to our current society?
- Do you see any parallels in yourself and/or your own family?
- Do you ever catch yourself relying on your own experience while doing something that God has asked you to do? If comfortable, please share.
- How often do you think you rely fully on God and not your own strength? Describe one example.
- How do we discipline ourselves to live by His strength? (Hint: See Revelation 3:18 & 19)

3. In our self-reliance and our lukewarmness, we forfeit the experience of the **presence** of God. Read Revelation 3:20-21 (NIV) out loud.

REFLECT & LET MARINADE:

- What is one area where you want to be living victoriously?

- Is God knocking on the door of your heart? Pastor Jason powerfully illustrated the point of Jesus knocking and asking to be let in.
- Have we locked Jesus out accidentally? Have we locked Him out on purpose?
- If you have locked Him out on purpose, what would need to happen in order to let Jesus back in?

Purposeful Practice: Copy this prayer on a sticky note or in your phone or take a picture of it and then pray it often:

Heavenly Father, I pray you give me Your vision and Your power to be victorious in the purpose You have designed specifically for me. I ask You to ignite my soul with a life-giving passion and when it fades, reignite it, bold and strong. Lord Jesus, I want you in my heart and I ask that You keep knocking and reveal to me my self-reliance and how I have locked You out. Holy Spirit, give me ears to hear, call to me and talk to me, I want to hear and follow my Shepherd's voice! Amen.