

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

Jesus is Outside: Rev. 3:14-22

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Sunday, January 14, 2018

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions
or family or personal devotions*

1. Our church Ministry Team was challenged to write a letter “to the church of West Highland” with commendations and rebukes, similar to the letters written in Rev. 2&3. What would your comments be in this exercise? How could we, as individual Christians, take similar evaluation of our own lives?
2. What does the description of Jesus in vs.14 say to you?
3. Look at vs. 15 – what is Jesus judging the church on in particular, and how can such a thing be neither hot nor cold? How do we avoid this tendency in our own lives? Why would be cold be preferable to lukewarm?
4. How do you think the church in Laodicea had become so blind to its true spiritual condition? Ref. Matt 23:25,26, 2 Cor. 4:18. Who undertakes to deal with them and how?
5. Laodicea was a city where things were thriving, and people were doing well in life without an apparent need for Jesus. Compare the situation in those days to the life we have in Canada today, and the situation we find ourselves in as a society that is plunging into moral decay. Discuss Rev 3:19-20 as a response to the problem.
6. Read Romans 6:1-14 and discuss how this passage relates to the following:
 - a. If we are supposed to be united with Christ in his death, how is it more insulting if we live a “lukewarm” life for Him than if we had just rejected Him.
 - b. How is living a lukewarm life, and relying on yourself for your day-to-day needs, one of the sins that is mentioned in this passage?
7. Talk about the natural tendency of Christians to drift into casualness, and share ways to prevent it.

8. How do you respond to rebuke and discipline??

9. How in its context is verse 20 to be understood? If a church as a whole is 'lukewarm', may individuals within it enjoy a close relationship with the Lord? What does the Lord promise to church? Ref. John 14:22, 23: what are the conditions to be fulfilled in order to obtain what is promised?

10. For personal reflection, take inventory of the rooms and areas of your life, and ask Jesus into all of them.

11. A story was told involving William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army where he heard a non-believer say to a group of Christians that if he believed in what they supposedly believe about the Lord Jesus Christ, then he wouldn't stop telling people the truth. What challenges does that give you as you meditate on your current life?

For Group prayer....

1. That we, by utilizing our God-given-gifts, as well as our knowledge of the Truth, would no longer be lukewarm and take these things for granted. That this concerted effort would revive West Highland, spiritually.

2. That collectively, we would be a lighthouse to our community.

3. That we would intentionally draw close to God, so as to hear his voice and knock on our hearts where He wants to create change.