

Getting to Know Each Other.

“What is your favorite T.V. series about lawyers?”¹

Follow up. Did you get to share with someone about Jesus this past week?

Or how else did you obey Jesus?

Vision. Jesus told us to “Make Disciples.” The purpose of our Life Group is: To help people become Believers in Jesus and grow up to become Disciple Makers.

Bible Study Introduction. The last church Jesus speaks to in the book of Revelation is the church in Laodicea. That’s a city in present day Turkey. Jesus identifies Himself as “the faithful and true witness.” What Jesus was about to testify about those who claimed to be His followers was going to be the truth and nothing but the truth. Apparently, many of these people were Christians in name only.

Pray. Before we read the Scripture and discuss it, let’s pray that God will speak to each one of us.

Read. Get someone to read **Revelation 3:14-27**.

Discuss these questions, one at a time, encouraging everyone who wants to respond to do so. Remind the group: Keep your answers based just on this passage.

- Not far from Laodicea were two towns. One was known for its hot springs, the other for its cold clear spring water. Laodicea only had mineral water that tasted like sulphur. This was a picture of the believers’ spiritual lives. How would you describe what a “lukewarm church attendee” looks like today? What does Jesus say He will do with “lukewarm church attendees”?
- Read verse 17. Like a physician, Jesus diagnoses the **spiritual condition** of these people. They are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. Why is it necessary for person with a serious physical illness to face their condition if they want to be healed? What are some reasons people don’t want to admit they have a serious illness? Why are people often unwilling to face a serious spiritual problem?
- Read verse 18. How can people who are spiritually “**poor**” afford to “**buy**” spiritual gold, white garments, and eye ointment? Rather than **paying** for these things, what do you think Jesus wants them to do? What does this show about God’s mercy and grace being our only hope?
- Read verse 19. How do Jesus’ hard words about the true spiritual condition of the believers in Laodicea show His love for them? How have you experienced Jesus’ discipline in your life?
- Read verse 20. Jesus is at the door knocking. He loves you! He brings a meal to share. He brings gold, white garments, and eye ointment. Why would anyone refuse to welcome Jesus in? What do you think Jesus will do when He “moves in” to a person who really “opens the door” and welcomes Him in?
- Read verse 21. Because Jesus has paid for our salvation on the cross, He offers all of us the spiritual riches, purity, and healing we desperately need. If we are faithful to Jesus, He promises we can sit with Him on His throne in heaven! What would it feel like to be invited to sit with Jesus on His throne?
- What is the Spirit saying to you today?

Obeying Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we want to follow Jesus in whatever way He is leading us today. We’re going to pray silently for 20 seconds. Pray something like this:

“Lord Jesus, what do you want me to do with what You are showing me?” [20 sec. silent prayer]

Closing Pray.^{2,3} “Lord, open our hearts to receive what You want to teach us through the book of Revelation. Prepare the hearts of the people we will be sharing the Good News of Jesus with this week. And give us strength and joy as we follow You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Notes: 1 Use a different “icebreaker” or leave it out.

2 Pray your own prayer, ask someone else to pray, or open it up for anyone to voice short prayers if time permits.

3 Keep an eye on the time and don’t go too long!