

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Week 5 | Faith | Rev. 3:1-6

Ice Breaker

There is an old phrase that says, "If something appears too good to be true, it probably is." Have you ever had an experience where something seemed too good to be true and turned out to be not as good as it looked?

General Study Questions

- How does this passage fit into the book as a whole?
- How does it flow from the previous section of the text?
- What in the passage stands out to you?
- How does this passage minister to its original audience?
- How does this text minister to us today?
- Is there a sin to confess?
- Is there a cause for thanksgiving or praise to God?
- Is there a promise or truth to trust in?
- Is there an attitude to change?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to imitate?
- Is there anything confusing or hard to understand about the passage?
- How is the gospel present in this passage?
- What is the single, main point of the passage?
- How would you apply this passage to your life?

Text Specific Questions

1. What does it mean that Jesus has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars? How would that challenge or encourage the church at Sardis? How can it challenge or encourage us today?
2. What does Sardis having a "reputation of being alive" mean? What does it mean that they are actually "dead?" How can a church or individual have the reputation of being alive, but actually be dead?
3. In Rev. 3:2, God calls the church to "strengthen what remains." Then in Rev. 3:4 we see "what remains" refers to the few who are still spiritually alive. How were they supposed to strengthen what remains? How can we do that in our church today?
4. Read Eph. 2:1-11. Clearly works cannot make us alive, only a saving faith in Jesus. What does it mean then in Rev. 3:2 that God had not "found their works complete?"
5. God's solution for their spiritual state of death is to remember what they have received and heard, which would refer to the gospel. Have each person in your group try to give a one to two sentence summary of the gospel.
6. The one who conquers is given three promises in Rev. 3:5. What are they? How do each of these promises contrast with what we receive from pursuing a good reputation apart from Jesus?
7. At the end of the message, we were given 4 reflection questions. Review the 4 questions (see below). Which areas are you doing well in? Which areas can you improve on? What steps can you take to grow in those areas? (Consider writing down your answers in the measurement and output sections of your journal.)

Reflection Questions from the Message

1. Am I finding joy in the kingdom activities I am doing?
2. Do I struggle to believe that God delights in me when I rest just as much as when I work?
3. Do my actions in private match my actions in public?
4. Who gets the glory for the things that I do?

Close in Prayer

Have each person share any additional prayer requests they may have. Spend some time praying for those requests as well as the outputs people have written down or shared. If you have a larger group, consider breaking up into smaller groups of 2-3 for this time. Be sure to write down prayer requests and outputs so you can pray during the week.

