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**Message 2 Of 7: The Church Of Ephesus (Revelation 2: 1-7)**

**2**“‘I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. **3**I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. **4**But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. **5**Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. **6**Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. **7**He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.’

**Seven Churches Addressed by Jesus:**

Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea

**The Result of The Apostle Paul and Other Apostles:**

The Birth of Faith & A Community of Faith – The Church of Ephesus

**Verse: Ephesians 1:15-16**

**The Church of Ephesus**

* They Worked. They Toiled. They Persevered.
* They Did Not Tolerate Evil.
* They Tested Imposters & Found Them To Be Deceivers.
* They Did Not Grow Weary.

**Nicolaitans:** Destruction of People; A sect in the church who approved of ungodly sexual practices and idolatry

**Tests and Trials From Outside of the Church**

**Tests and Trials From Inside The Church**

**Abandoned: To leave, to keep no longer, their first love**

Paul Addressed This In His Letter. Ephesians 4:17-24

**Hardness, Blindness, Calloused Heart**

* In the midst of the battle, they left their first love

**What About The Love?**

* Jesus To The Church Of Ephesus
* Paul To The Early Church

**The Three Great’s of the New Testament**

* Mark 12:28-34; Matthew 28:16-20; John 15:13
* **Central To Each Great Is God’s Quality Of Love**

**Jesus’ Instruction: Remember, Repent, Redo**

1. Remember Your Testimony; Ephesians 2:1-5, 12-19
2. Repent: Renew / Change Your Mind; Ephesians 4:17-24
3. Redo: Created For Good Works; Ephesians 2:10

**What Is The Work of God We Are To Walk In?**

To Work & To Walk In Love; Ephesians 5:1-2

**Life Group Discussion Questions**
**REVIEW, REVIEW, REVIEW**

Take your time reading Revelation 2:1-7, The Book Of Ephesians, Acts 19-20.

**Try to get a sense of the setting, the challenges Paul and the other Apostles faced, the people God sent with Paul.**

How did Paul minister? What and who did he value?

What kind of support did he have? What / who did he lean on?

What was his message? Did he have a strategy to reach the lost?

What is the difference between work done for God out of love verse out of duty and discipline?

What kind of difference can the genuine, authentic love of God make in our lives and through our lives?

Share one or two stories of how the love of God shown to you has changed your life?

Send Feedback or Questions kaipo@waipunachapel.com