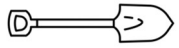


**Revelation 2:18-29 • Hold Fast**



**DWELL** Listen and follow along as we read the passage together, taking note of repeated words. Briefly share initial observations and/or questions with your group.



**DIG** Briefly summarize for each category, using the chart below. (You can also keep track of all 7 churches on the full-page chart in your notebook.)

Passage	To angel of the church in:	Description of Jesus	What Jesus knows - Commendation	What Jesus knows - Accusation	Exhortation/Warning	Call to listen? Y/N	Promise to the faithful
2:18-29							

1. Who was the Jezebel of ancient Israel? (Refer to the passages from 1 & 2 Kings on the back.)
2. Discuss the issue of eating food sacrificed to idols and of sexuality offered in Ba'al worship (things Jezebel brought into the midst of God's people), and what participating in these things means to God (Refer to the passages from 1 & 2 Kings, Numbers and Hosea, on the back).
3. Read the Acts 15 passage (on the back). What is the additional significance of these acts of idolatry, in the context of the early church?
4. What does Jesus promise to those who conquer/endure until His return? See v.26-28 and 20:4.
5. Read Psalm 2:7-12 (on back). Discuss how it relates to Jesus' letter to the church in Thyatira.
6. As you reflect on this passage, what are you learning about God (Father/Son/Spirit) that is encouraging, comforting and/or challenging to you?

**DEEPEN**



7. What kinds of things are you tempted to embrace (or 'give offerings to') that may be a rival to whole-hearted love of Jesus and single-minded trust in His gospel?

8. What does/might it look like for you to "only hold on to what you have until [Jesus] come[s]?"

**Exodus 34:15 JPS85.** You must not make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, for they will lust after their gods and sacrifice to their gods and invite you, and you will eat of their sacrifices.

**1 Kings 16:29-33 niv.** Ahab son of Omri became king over Israel in the 38<sup>th</sup> year of King Asa of Judah, and Ahab son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria for twenty-two years. And Ahab, the son of Omri, did more evil in the sight of the Lord than any that were before him. Now, it appeared trifling for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, he took as a wife Jezebel, the daughter of Ethical, king of the Zidonians and went and served the Baal and bowed down to him.... And he raised an altar to Baal in the temple of Baal that he built in Samaria.

**1 Kings 18:4,22 niv.** While Jezebel was killing off the LORD's prophets, Obadiah had taken a hundred prophets and hidden them in two caves, fifty in each, and had supplied them with food and water... Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the LORD's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets.

**2 Kings 9:22 niv.** When Joram saw Jehu he asked, "Have you come in peace, Jehu?" "How can there be peace," Jehu replied, "as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?"

**Hosea 2:13 niv.** I will punish her for the days she burned incense to the Baals; she decked herself with rings and jewelry, and went after her lovers, but me she forgot," declares the LORD.

**Acts 15:1-2, 28-29 niv.** Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: "Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved." This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question. It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things. Farewell.

**Psalms 2:7-12 niv.** I will proclaim the LORD's decree: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have become your father. Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery." Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling. Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.