

Dig Deeper @Home – “Ears that Hear”

Complement to sermon on August 6, 2017 – “Keep His Works”

MEMORIZE – Revelation 22:7

And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book

READ Revelation 2: 18-29

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. As you read about this church in Thyatira, what are the strengths and weaknesses of the church?
4. In Revelation 2:20, Jesus says, “But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel”

What kind of character was Jezebel wife of Ahab? What did she do that made her infamous? (Read 1 Kings 16:29-34; 21:1-16)

What does the symbolic name “Jezebel” reveal about the woman in this church? (2 Kings 9:7-37)

5. How is the nature and source of the temptation in Thyatira like and unlike that in Pergamum?
6. What do you think Jesus’ promises in verses 26-28 means?
7. What do you appreciate most about the promises to those who hold fast and overcome in these verses?

Bottom Line – Summarize Revelation 2: 18-29 in your own words

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of Revelation 2: 18-29

You're a What!

Write down on a slip of paper the name of an animal (any will work- snake, cow, horse, hummingbird etc.) Put the slips of paper in a basket or a hat. Take turns picking out a slip of paper and acting out (no words) the actions of the animal for others to guess. When you have taken several turns, ask the question, "How were you able to guess the animals?" (By looking at what the animal did, etc.)

Read Proverbs 20:11 – "Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright." The actions we do show to others that we are Christians and want to live like Christ.

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Overcome by Jeremy Camp - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8AB0vUU038>

This song of worship speaks to the power of Christ who has overcome the power of the grave and he invites us to be steadfast and to overcome also by the "blood of the lamb and the word of our testimony" (Rev. 12:11).

The Work is Thine, O Christ – Mennonite Hymnal #426

This hymn affirms the truth that the work is Christ's and He invites us to follow.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. It is a time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Heavenly Father, as we come to you in prayer, we ask you for the grace and courage to live and love and serve you this day with patient endurance. Search our hearts and minds and lead us to live lives that will act in ways that reflect your love. Let our eyes remain focused on you Jesus, "the bright and morning star". Amen.