

ULC Sermon Study Resource
Laodicea: The Lukewarm Church
Pastor Gabe
11/26/23

Prayer: Begin this time with a moment of prayer, seeking God's presence and asking for guidance to grasp the message in Revelation 3:14-22.

Icebreaker: if you could have one superpower, what would it be and how would you use it?

Reading: (Revelation 3:14-22)

Lukewarmness and Self-Sufficiency (Revelation 3:14-17)

- Jesus identifies Himself as the Amen, the faithful and true witness, and the beginning of God's creation.
- The Laodicean church is rebuked for its lukewarm state, neither hot nor cold.
- The root of their lukewarmness is their reliance on wealth and self-sufficiency.
- Q: In what ways do wealth and success contribute to spiritual lukewarmness?

The Call to Zealousness (Revelation 3:18-19)

- Jesus counsels the church to buy refined gold, white garments, and eye salve from Him.
- Repentance and zealous pursuit of Christ are emphasized as the solution.
- The connection between genuine love and the discipline Jesus brings is explored.
- Q: How can we practically pursue zeal in our relationship with Jesus amidst worldly distractions?

Spiritual Power and Union with Christ (Revelation 3:20-21)

- Jesus stands at the door, knocking, inviting the church to fellowship.
- The promise of sitting on the throne with Christ is tied to conquering through union with Him.
- Spiritual power is presented as the outcome of zealous pursuit and unity with Christ.

- Q: In what ways can a zealous pursuit of Jesus lead to spiritual power in our lives?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- How can we guard against the allure of self-sufficiency and material success in our faith journey?
- In what areas of our individual and corporate lives do we need to repent and embrace zeal for Christ?
- How can we intentionally prioritize our relationship with Jesus in the midst of our daily responsibilities?
- Reflect on the promise of spiritual power in union with Christ. How does this impact our approach to challenges and hardships?

Suggestions for further study:

Philippians 3:7-11. Explore Paul's perspective on the surpassing value of knowing Christ.

James 4:4-10. Reflect on the call to humility, repentance, and drawing near to God.

Colossians 3:1-4. Consider the exhortation to set our minds on things above.

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we come before you with open hearts, seeking to understand and embrace the message from Revelation 3:14-22. Help us, Lord, to recognize and repent of any lukewarmness in our lives. May our pursuit of You be zealous, and may we experience the spiritual power that comes from union with Christ. In His name, we pray. Amen.