

where's the **LOVE?**

(The Church of Ephesus)
Revelation 2:1-7

Revelation - Background
(Church of Ephesus: Acts 18:18-22, Acts 19, Acts 20:17-38)

The COMMENDATION

1. **HARD WORK** for the name and glory of God is commendable. (Ephesians 2:10; 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3; Hebrews 6:9-12; Romans 12:11)
2. Steadfast, patient **ENDURANCE** is commendable. (1 Corinthians 15:58; Hebrews 10:36-39, 12:1-3; James 1:2-4)
3. Having **NO TOLERANCE** for evil is commendable. (Isaiah 5:20; Psalm 101:3-4; Ephesians 5:11; Romans 12:9; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; James 4:7; Matthew 6:13; Philippians 4:8)
4. **TESTING** the message and the messenger is commendable. (Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:1-6; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; Romans 12:2; Jeremiah 14:14, 23:16; 2 Timothy 4:3-4; Matthew 7:15-20)

The CENSURE

5. Have I walked away from a fervent love for **JESUS**? (John 4:24; Deuteronomy 6:5; Galatians 2:20; Matthew 10:37; 1 Samuel 12:24; 2 Corinthians 5:15)

The CHALLENGE

6. **REMEMBER, REPENT, and RETURN.** (Acts 3:19; Matthew 3:8, 22:34-40; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Isaiah 30:15; Acts 20:21; 1 John 1:9; Proverbs 28:13; Joel 2:13; Lamentations 3:40; James 4:8)

The CONSEQUENCE

7. We do not want our **LIGHT** extinguished or our **EFFECTIVENESS** drained. (Matthew 5:14-16; John 8:12; Ephesians 5:8; 1 Peter 2:9; Philippians 2:15; Acts 13:47; Hebrews 10:24-25; Matthew 28:18-20)



Taking it further to help you THRIVE...

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say "See you next week" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!
For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. **Verse 1** says that Jesus "walks in the midst / among" the 7 churches. What is the significance of this?
3. Jesus commends the Ephesian church for their perseverance in the truth and for not becoming weary. What causes weariness? What can we do to guard against weariness? (See **Hebrews 12:1-3**.)
4. It has been said that the Ephesian church had "orthodoxy without devotion." What does this mean? In what ways are we (the church today) prone to (or guilty of) the same?
5. Compare and contrast the "first love" you had for Jesus and the love you have for Him now. What do you observe? In what ways might the love have grown weaker / stronger? Are there any paths you have taken from which you need to be re-routed?
6. What did Jesus mean when He said "I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent" (**verse 5**)? What application does this have for us today?