

LETTING GO OF A LIFE THAT IS  
**LUKEWARM**

(The Church of Laodicea)  
Revelation 3:14-22

Laodicea (Background)

1. Jesus is The One Who guarantees and fulfills all the **PROMISES** of God. (Isaiah 65:16; John 1:1-3,14; 18:37; 2 Corinthians 1:20; 2 Samuel 7:12-13; Revelation 1:5, 21:6, 22:13; Colossians 1:15-17)

The COMMENDATION  
(None.)

The CENSURE.

2. Spiritual **APATHY** is quietly destructive. (Romans 12:11; Revelation 3:2; 2 Timothy 4:3-4; Hebrews 5:11-12; Matthew 21:43; Zephaniah 1:12-13; Ephesians 5:16)
3. Self-**RELIANCE** creates the false impression that we don't really 'need' God. (2 Corinthians 3:5, 12:9; Jeremiah 9:23-24, 10:23, 17:7-8; John 15:5; Ephesians 4:22-24; Proverbs 3:5-6)
4. Self-**DECEPTION** blinds us to reality and feeds an ongoing lie. (Galatians 6:3; 1 Corinthians 10:12; Romans 12:3; 1 Timothy 4:1; Jeremiah 17:9; Isaiah 44:20; Proverbs 16:18; James 1:23-24; Luke 12:19)

The CHALLENGE

5. Come to Jesus to receive what you **NEED** that you **DO NOT HAVE**. (Matthew 6:33; Revelation 22:17; Isaiah 55:1-13; John 5:40; Philippians 4:14,19; Matthew 7:7-11; Luke 1:53; Hebrews 4:16)
6. Repent of **SIN** and of trusting in **SELF**, and turn to fully trust in Jesus. (John 3:30; Proverbs 28:26; 2 Corinthians 1:9; Ezekiel 33:13; Matthew 3:8; Hebrews 12:5-6; Isaiah 30:15; Romans 2:4; John 5:14, 8:11; James 4:17)
7. If Jesus is on the '**OUTSIDE**' knocking, open the **DOOR** and let Him **IN**. (Luke 12:36; Romans 8:10; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 1:19, 27)

The CONSEQUENCE

8. The overcomer - the one who stands victorious over even the **WORST** of sins - will be seated alongside Christ in the highest place of **HONOR**. (John 16:33; Romans 8:37; 1 John 4:4, 5:5; Matthew 19:28; Ephesians 2:3-9; Revelation 5:10; 2 Timothy 2:12)



## 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](http://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. What 3 industries/trades was Laodicea famous for when this letter was written? How are these related to what Jesus had to say to them? In what areas are we in danger of being / becoming self-reliant and self-satisfied?
3. What are some of the main differences between what Jesus said to the church in Smyrna and the church in Laodicea? What is the reason(s) for the difference?
4. Read verse 16. This is one of the most direct and harsh words from Jesus to any of the churches. Why is spiritual lukewarmness so repulsive to Jesus? In what ways might you have become spiritually lukewarm?
5. Quite often verse 20 is used in the context of sharing the gospel with an unbeliever, beckoning them to open the door of their hearts to Jesus as Savior and Lord (and this is surely applicable!) But the true context of this verse reveals that Jesus is actually speaking to believers / to His Church! In what ways do we 'keep Jesus on the outside' of what we do in the church? Why? How can we change this?
6. We often receive criticism and correction as a stab or an attack, but Jesus tells the wayward Laodiceans that He LOVES them and rebukes them BECAUSE He loves them (see Hebrews 12:5-6). Why is it important to not take criticism (especially from the Holy Spirit) so negatively? What does Jesus want to produce in our lives?