
REVELATION

GOD IS IN CONTROL OF ALL THINGS

FAMILY CONVERSATION GUIDE

THE THEME

God is in control of all things.

FEBRUARY MEMORY VERSE

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in...” **Revelation 3:20a NIV**

FEBRUARY CHALLENGE VERSE

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.” **Revelation 4:8b NIV**

FEBRUARY 4 - LIFE APPLICATION

Jesus wants His church and His people to be all in!

NOTE TO PARENTS

In the **Book of Revelation**, John, the disciple loved by Jesus, is given words and visions of heaven and Jesus, and prophecies about the end of times. Remind your family that **God has a plan**, is over all things, knows all things, and He is with us through all things. Please read the scripture and listen to the sermon, in person or online, before discussing with your family. If this guide is too much in one sitting, break it up and talk through the questions throughout the week.

The Church at Laodicea

In **Revelation 2 and 3**, Jesus speaks to seven churches through letters from John. This week, in **Revelation 3:14-22**, Jesus is speaking to the church at Laodicea. It is in a city that is a wealthy banking center. They had a water aqueduct system to transport water from Colossae. However, by the time the water got to them, it was not cold, but lukewarm. They were known for dying wool black, and exporting it to other places. They also had a special salve that could help people with eye issues to heal. Jesus taught using words they could understand, from their own personal experiences. As you read, notice Jesus using these examples from the everyday life of the people in Laodicea. The references will be underlined.

DISCUSS:

1. Read **Revelation 3:14**. **How is Jesus described?**
 - The Amen (He tells truth)
 - The faithful and true witness (He tells the truth about all he has seen)
 - The beginning of God's creation (the source of all creation - see **Colossians 1:15-20**)
2. With the other churches, Jesus began by telling them the good things He saw them doing. Read **verses 15,16**. **What good things did Jesus have to say about the church at Laodicea?** (*He had nothing good to say!*) **What did he say?** (*That they were neither cold nor hot, but lukewarm.*) Remember the water that they got from the aqueduct. **Was this a compliment? How do you know?** (*He said because they were lukewarm He would spit them out of His mouth - this church made him sick!*)
3. Read **verse 17**. **Why did they make him sick?** (*They were satisfied with themselves - they thought that they were rich, that they were prosperous, and that they needed nothing. They were prideful.*) **But, what did Jesus say they were?** (*Wretched, pitiable, blind, and naked.*) Jesus meant this in a

spiritual way - that they were lost and without purpose, compromising with the world and its evil ways.

4. In **verses 18,19** Jesus told them what they needed to “buy” (receive in grace) from Him:
 - Gold refined by fire (through difficult times we grow and are stronger, rich in Him)
 - White garments, not black ones (White signifies forgiveness of sins)
 - Salve to open their eyes so that they can see His great love for them
 - Accept His loving reproof and discipline so that they can repent and be free

These are all spiritual blessings! Jesus wants His people to be rich in Spirit.

5. Read **verse 20**. Jesus is knocking on the door of the church and the door of our hearts. **What will happen if we hear His voice and open the door?** (*He will come in to us and eat - dine - with us. We are the church, and we are His people. He wants to have a close relationship with Him - we are His family!*)
6. Read **verse 21**. **What is the benefit of being a conqueror/overcomer?** (*We will sit on Jesus’s throne with Him as He sits on the Father’s - God’s - throne. We will rule and reign with Him in the Millennial Kingdom!*)
7. Read **verse 22** together. **Have you noticed that Jesus said this to all seven churches? What does He want them to do?** (*To hear what the Spirit has to say to them.*)

FAMILY CHALLENGE

1. Jesus said, “He who has an ear, let him hear...”

Do you think Jesus was talking to us as well as the seven churches? How can we show that we have ‘heard’ Him? What are some things that we as a family can do differently?

- Realize that the things of this world are not as important as our relationship with Jesus.
- Open our eyes to His great love for us and spend time in relationship with Him.
- Know that He is with us in difficult times, and that we can grow and be stronger as we “overcome” difficult things that happen to us.
- Accept His discipline as we grow in our faith. Know that we are forgiven.
- Know that we are in this world, but we belong to God’s kingdom, not the

world. In this way we are overcomers.

- Serve Him with the gift He has given us.

2. Define “lukewarm.” **Rate your faith, prayer life, Bible reading, and serving others with a 1 being cold and a 10 being hot for Jesus.** Where would you fall? If you are at a 5, that’s lukewarm! Let each member of your family take this test. It is revealing!
3. The verse this month is **Revelation 3:20a**: “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in...”

Together, create a sign and hang it on a door in your home. Talk about what the verse means, and challenge your family to memorize the verse.

4. Purchase beads from a craft store, and use the beads to make bracelets! Have each family member pick a word from the scripture and use letter beads to make bracelets. (Grace, Overcomer, Faithful, True, etc.)

PRAYER

Dear Jesus: We know that the letters You sent to the churches were also for us. We want to hear what You have to say and live as You want us to live. We know You love us, and we invite You to show us places where we need to grow and overcome. In Your Name we pray, Amen.