



Digging Deeper

Putting your faith in ACTION!

This morning let's not be just 'hearers' of the Word, but 'doers of the word. Take some time at lunch, dinner, or bedtime to DIG DEEPER into the today's lesson and story. Take a few moments to apply today's lesson to our lives.

ASK MYSELF...challenging questions for the heart:

1. From this morning's message, how can one call themselves a "Christian" yet be "Spiritually dead"?
2. If there some type of scale of spiritual death (0) to spiritual life (10), where would you place yourself on that scale? When you think about it – can there actually be a place of being 'kinda alive'? Is that truly being spiritually alive?
3. When you read Christ's words to "wake-up" (v.2) what does that mean to you?
4. Take some time to pray over today's message.

FOR THE FAMILY...challenging questions for family life:

1. Discuss the idea that just because someone calls themselves a Christian does not mean they are actually a Christian. What traits or behaviors identify a genuine Christ follower? Discuss these together.
2. How can we "wake" up to the things (life) of God?
3. How can we "strengthen" what we have going well in our faith?
4. Take some time pray together.



Today's Service

October 1st, 2017

Series: Seven

Part 5: Sardis

Pastor Brian Stanley



Revelation 3:1-6 (NLT) ¹ “Write this letter to the angel of the church in Sardis. This is the message from the one who has the sevenfold Spirit of God and the seven stars: “I know all the things you do, and that you have a reputation for being alive—but you are dead. ²Wake up! Strengthen what little remains, for even what is left is almost dead. I find that your actions do not meet the requirements of my God. ³Go back to what you heard and believed at first; hold to it firmly. Repent and turn to me again. If you don’t wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief. ⁴“Yet there are some in the church in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes with evil. They will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵All who are victorious will be clothed in white. I will never erase their names from the Book of Life, but I will announce before my Father and his angels that they are mine. ⁶“Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.

CHECK YOUR PULSE!

1. When everything worth celebrating (faith-wise) is in your _____.

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NLT) ²²The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. ²³Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.

John 5:17 (NLT) ¹⁷But Jesus replied, “My Father is always working, and so am I.”

2. When we value our ____ of doing things over His _____.

Isaiah 43:19a (NLT) ¹⁹For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?

3. When _____ becomes more important than _____.

1 Corinthians 3:12-15 (NLT) ¹²Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. ¹³But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person’s work has any value. ¹⁴If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer

great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.

4. When _____ replaces your _____.

Isaiah 29:13 (NLT) ¹³And so the Lord says, “These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. And their worship of me is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.

2 Timothy 3:5 (NLT) ⁵They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

1 Corinthians 4:20 (NLT) ²⁰For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God’s power.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 (NLT) ¹ If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn’t love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn’t love others, I would be nothing.

REVIVE YOURSELVES!

Ephesians 5:14-17 (NLT) ¹⁴for the light makes everything visible. This is why it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light.”

¹⁵So be careful how you live. Don’t live like fools, but like those who are wise. ¹⁶Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. ¹⁷Don’t act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

1. _____ to your spiritual condition.
2. _____ what remains.
3. _____ to what you know you should do.
4. _____ that time is short.

Psalms 139:23-24 (NLT) ²³Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

