

Branches: LIVE

Ryan Cook
“En Fuego”

Icebreaker: Have each member name three things (no duplicates) that are better at room temperature.

What to Expect:

- Life can distract us from God. At times it can seem like it does it on purpose. When our eyes and attention drift from God, we stop being “hot” for the things He has for us. We begin to cool to room temperature and find ourselves living a ho-hum, apathetic life.

Texts for Discussion:

- Read **Revelation 3:14-22**
 - Jesus is dictating letters to the large churches through the Apostle John. This letter is to a church in Laodicea.
 - Laodicea is famous for three things at this time period:
 - They are rich.
 - They have a thriving, high end textile industry.
 - They make “cure-all” salves, especially for irritated eyes.
 - Based on those industries, what do you think about Jesus’s words to this church? What is he trying to get across to them?
- Read **Matthew 5:13-16**
 - Any similarities in tone and subject between this verse and the one from **Revelation**?
 - Why does God take this personally?

Going Further:

- When we get “lukewarm” or lose our saltiness, what happens to our view of the cross? When we turn our eyes from God and focus on other things it is idolatry. Are there areas in your life that are idols, distracting you from an intimate relationship with God?
 - What is the danger in becoming apathetic and losing perspective on our own sinfulness?
- In every instance of relationship with God in scripture, He initiates contact. He is the creator—He reaches out—He knocks on the door. Why is that important?
 - Can you think of any verses that demonstrate God as the initiator? How does this affect your personal feelings toward God?
- In **vs 18 of Revelation**, Christ tells us to buy from him. Why is that important?
 - Do you feel like you have opened the door to Christ in your life?

- If so, how has He impacted your life recently?
- If not, what is stopping you?

Going Deeper:

- In view of the highest price that Jesus paid at the cross, it should devastate us to the point of becoming zealous for Him. What are some ways that you can begin to turn your attention (or keep it) toward Christ in your life? How can you encourage each other?

Prayer: Prayer should be an active part of our daily lives. Collect prayer needs and celebrations from each member, and encourage everyone to practice praying each day.