

# 7 LETTERS – THE CHURCH THAT MAKES JESUS SICK

## SMALL GROUP NOTES 24/11/19

*Martin Segal (Canterbury)*

*Martin Segal (Chartham)*

*Geoff Maile (Whitstable)*

## SCRIPTURE

Revelation 3:14-22

## SCRIPTURE CONTEXT

This is the final letter and a ferocious one. Jesus writes to the church in Laodicea, a wealthy commercial city. The self-sufficiency of the city was reflected in the church too, but Jesus tells them they aren't rich, prospering or self-sufficient, but wretched, poor, blind and naked. What they are bringing to God is neither hot nor cold, but lukewarm, sickly and offensive. Despite this, Jesus still loves them and he is wanting to call them to repentance from their self-dependence and pride. By grace they can exchange their spiritual poverty for riches. He offers them pure white garments to cover their shame and salve to anoint their eyes so that they may see their sin and His glory.

## QUESTION FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. Why is discipline actually a sign of love? How does this conflict with the conception of love in popular culture?
2. What does it mean that sanctification, like justification, comes through faith?
3. How have you been able to see that Jesus' words are trustworthy in your life?
4. Have you ever been mistaken or deceived about your spiritual condition or maturity? How did you come to learn of your mistake? What is the proper response when the Lord exposes spiritual immaturity or disobedience in our lives?