Message Based Questions 11/15/20 Revelation 2:12-17— Holding On

Icebreaker: What is a dream that was fulfilled that you thought wouldn't happen? What was that experience like for you?

Scriptures: Revelation 2:12-17

To Discuss:

- 1. Looking back at your notes from the message, was there anything that caught your attention, or challenged or confused you?
- 2. Read Revelation 2:12-17. What did Jesus say positively about the Pergamum church? Who do you know that displays those same qualities?
- 3. In this letter Jesus calls out the church in Pergamum for blending into culture. What are some harmful or helpful ways that you see Christians blending into culture today?
- 4. We can all struggle with adding to our beliefs ("Jesus and _____") without realizing it.
 - a. What do you see Christ followers holding onto in their faith, plus Jesus?
 - b. What is something you are tempted to add to your faith?
 - c. When the things of this world are clamoring for your attention, what do you find helpful in keeping Jesus your first priority and sole focus?
- **5.** Read verses 12 and 16 again, which refer to Jesus with a sword. What thoughts or feelings do these descriptions invoke in you? Look at Hebrews 4:12. When is a time in your life you found the Bible, as described in this verse, convicting you to change?
- **6.** Pastor Rick said the #1 need of the seven churches in Revelation--and for us today--is a better understanding of who Jesus is. How can we know Him better? How can we trust Him more fully?
- 7. Look again at Revelation 2:17. What is the invitation in this verse? What do we learn about Jesus and His victory and provision for us? For further encouragement look up Romans 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; and Ephesians 2:6-7.
- **8.** What is one thing you learned as a result of studying this passage or participating in this discussion? How can your group pray for you as you make this truth a part of your life?

Close in a time of prayer, asking that God's kindness would lead us to repentance and that we as a church would turn back to fully trust and follow Jesus (not Jesus and something else).