

Message Based Questions 11/22/20

Revelation 2:18-29– Idolatry

Icebreaker: What is your favorite Thanksgiving side dish?

To Discuss:

1. Looking back at your notes from the message, what caught your attention, or challenged or confused you?
2. Read Revelation 2:18-29. Revelation is primarily about Jesus. As you browse through this letter to the church at Thyatira, what do you learn about Jesus our Lord? (see also Heb.4:13)
3. The initial impression at the beginning of this letter in verse 19 is that this church was rather healthy spiritually and growing in various ways. Try to visualize and describe how these young believers may have been living out the positive traits identified.
4. But going on to verse 20 we read, “Nevertheless, I have this against you.” No church is problem free or sin free. Some problems are subtle and very dangerous. It is easy for us to brush off what we consider “small sins.” Why is it important to deal with all sins--big or small? Discuss and then read 1 Cor.5:6, Gal.5:9, Gal.6:7-10. What have you seen in real life that supports this idea?
5. Review and discuss the four points Pastor Rick shared about idolatry. What are your observations? Is there one you need to repent of?
 - I. Idolatry is putting something/anything above, along with or in the place of God.
 - II. Idolatry is worshipping the created, not the Creator.
 - III. Idolatry is seeking to meet our needs without trusting God and His ways.
 - IV. Idolatry is always trading something better for something worse.
6. Jesus Christ is so good, patient and longsuffering. He gives us opportunity to repent. What is true repentance and some evidences that it is genuine? After some discussion consider 2 Chr.7:14; Acts 19:18-20; Luke 22:60-62. What actions show genuine repentance in these incidents?
7. Some or many at Thyatira had not fallen prey to Jezebel’s false and misleading teachings. Jesus encourage them: “Hold on to what you have” (verse 25). What do you do to help you stay on course spiritually? What are some challenges you/we face as we seek to stay on course when the pressure is on to digress from God’s clear Word?
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 for hearts to worship God alone. May God’s kindness lead us to repent of our idols. Also that we will surrender our fears in order to fully trust and follow Jesus (not “Jesus and something else”).