

Recapturing Our First Love

If we're not careful, the secondary can become primary. We can fall more in love with the process of our faith, the performance of our ministries, or the pragmatic metrics associated with what we're doing, than the God who made us. In the book of Revelation, John addresses precisely these temptations and provides a blueprint for how human beings can recapture their first love.

Getting Started

1. What are you most excited about this spring? What are you dreading?

What About You?

2. Have you ever woken up one day and realized that you've succumbed to "mission creep," that your current location is a long way from where you set off to go? In life? Work? Relationships?
3. Have you ever seen or experienced the death of a relationship? How does it happen?
4. What kinds of distractions are you most prone to when it comes to losing your focus in life?

Look It Up

Revelation 2:2-5

5. What aspects of this church does the author *celebrate* in this passage? What are they getting right?
6. What does the writer *caution* this church about? Why?
7. What is the "fix" here? What does the writer urge his audience to *do* in response to their situation?
8. How do you imagine this church got off track? What did the process of distraction look like for them, in your mind?

Putting It All Together

9. What kinds of *processes* have begun to distract you from the *person* of Jesus? How can you reemphasize your first love, here? What does that process look like for you?
10. What first drew you to Jesus? How present is that moment in your mind on a day to day basis? Will you commit to intentionally *remembering* what it felt like, this week?
11. The writer of Revelation implies that his audience needs to change their *mind* in order



to remember their first love? What aspects of your mindset need renewing right now?
How can you address this in prayer?

12. The final step outlined in this passage involves *action*. What steps will you take this week to actively *cultivate* your love for Christ?

