



## Return to Your First Love

May 21, 2023

Revelation 2:1-7

Questions for Study and Group Discussion

*\*\* Before you begin, please read Revelation 2:1-7*

1. Icebreaker: What is one thing you were once interested in, that you have now lost passion for?
2. In Revelation chapters 2 and 3, Jesus is addressing seven churches — sharing what He applauds, warning about things that need attention, and helping them live in a way that honors Him. Why is it important to listen closely to what Jesus says to these churches?
3. Make a list of what Jesus commends about the Ephesian church in Revelation 2:1-7.
4. Why are these things important? (Or think of this way: What will be lost if these things are lacking?)
5. What does it look like, practically speaking, to value these same things today?
6. In Revelation 2:4-5, Jesus addresses what is lacking and needs attention in the Ephesian church. In your own words, summarize what He's saying.
7. Read Matthew 22:36-40 and 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. Why is love (love for God and love for others) so important?
8. What steps does Jesus tell the church at Ephesus to take, to address their lack of love? (See especially Rev 2:5.)
9. Read Acts 19:18-20; Ephesians 3:14-21; and Ephesians 6:24. How does this provide a glimpse of "what the Ephesian church did at first" (Rev 2:5)? What can you learn from this?
10. Do a "heart check" of yourself. On a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the best answer), how is your love for God and others? Is your relationship with God characterized more by duty than delight? Why did you answer the way you did?
11. From what you've learned in Revelation 2:1-7, how can you keep stoking the fire of delight in Jesus? Get practical with your response.
12. What is your biggest take-away from what you've discussed so far? Why did this stand out to you the way it did?
13. **Challenge:** Identify one way this passage is challenging or encouraging you. Who can you tell about what you're learning this coming week?
14. **Challenge: Memorize Matthew 22:36-39:** 36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"