

:: Summary

The resurrected Lord Jesus hates lukewarmness. He also condemns complacent, self-satisfied, and indifferent attitudes rooted in worldly “stuff.” The spiritual environment of a local church becomes lukewarm when thinking like this happens: “I want the church to grow, but I want it to grow on my terms.” Or, “I want the church to flourish, but I want it to flourish the way that will be most beneficial to me.” Or, “I want this kind of worship or that kind of fellowship.” The solution Jesus gives to the “I want ...” problem is to re-direct desire and passion to *him* so that each follower can say, “I want what you, Lord Jesus, want.” For both individuals and the Church as a whole, to want what Jesus wants is the key to a flourishing life and impact in the world.

:: Share

Whether food, drinks, or ice packs, we like our hot things hot and our cold things cold. What is one lukewarm thing that drives you crazy?

:: Explore and Discuss | Revelation 3:14-22

Why do you think Jesus hates lukewarmness?

In Rev. 3:17, the resurrected Lord declares, “You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’” What are the problems with this kind of thinking in the life of faith?

The Revelation given to John by the Lord Jesus came in a time of increasing persecution, even death of Christians. How might this letter strengthen the church in a time of persecution?

:: Apply it to Your Life

In the original Greek language of this letter to *rebuke* means to state that someone has done wrong, and to *discipline* means to provide instruction, with the intent of forming proper habits of behavior. What is your reaction to this truth that to be rebuked and disciplined by Jesus is to be loved by Jesus? (V. 19)

In this season of seeking God’s way for our church, what impact can lukewarmness have on us personally?

What are some of the impacts on the mission of the church, on worship, and on fellowship when the overall spiritual environment is lukewarm?

In last week’s congregational Q&A with Dr. Borden, the question was raised, “what are the odds of success?” meaning being able to successfully navigate into a new season of



mission and ministry with the Great Commission as the focus. Dr. Borden's answer was "50/50." In the message, Pastor Mike asked the question, "what would change those odds?" The answer given was "All of us, all in." And to be "all in" means you can say "I want, Jesus, what *you* want." How is God working in your life to help you make this declaration with conviction?

:: Pray

Jesus, in this season of our life as a church, you stand at the door knocking. We invite you to have your way with us. Through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, make us zealous for you and the Great Commission. Help us to earnestly desire, to passionately want, what you want. Eliminate any lukewarmness in us and grow us as your followers that we might glorify you in all things. Amen.

