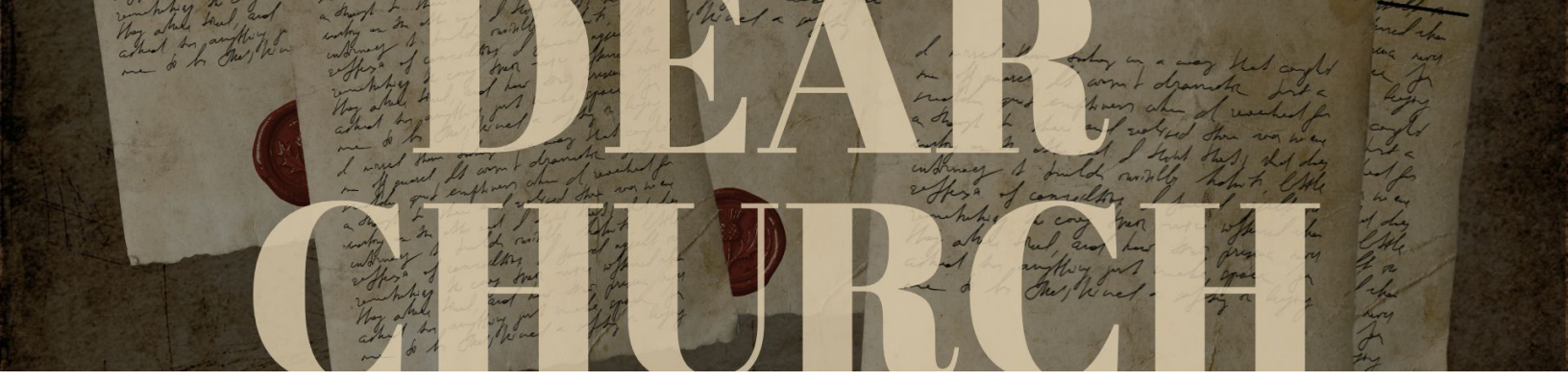




# DEAR CHURCH

## Discussion Questions 10/18/26

### Dear Ephesus

**Intro:** In his letter to the church in Ephesus, Jesus commends their hard work, perseverance, and commitment to truth, but warns them that they have abandoned their first love. The church must learn to hold firmly to the truth without losing its love for Jesus and others, remembering that our faith is demonstrated through tangible acts of love, hospitality, and service. As followers of Jesus, we are called to put our identity in Christ above all else and to reflect his sacrificial love, even when doing so makes us vulnerable to being taken advantage of.

**Story:** If you've gone through a time of spiritual dryness and found the other side of it, share how you got to the other side.

**Read:** Revelation 1:9-2:7

1. What are some ways we can be intentional about the threat of false teachers while still fighting for unity in the church?
2. Jesus said to remember the love you had before, repent for how far you've fallen, and do the things you did at first. How can this function as a method for staying a church that is faithful to Jesus?
3. There wasn't time to talk about it in the sermon, but what do you think is the significance of the tree of life as a reward for perseverance?
4. Read Daniel 7:9-14. John clearly saw Jesus as the son of man from Daniel who had all authority, dominion, power, and an everlasting Kingdom. How does this perspective shape the way we read the words of the letters that will come from Jesus?
5. What is one tangible act of love you can do this week that will simultaneously work to soften your heart to love more like Jesus?

**Pray:**

- That God would forgive how far we've fallen.
- That Jesus would restore our first love.
- For opportunity to live faithfully for Christ.