

SERMON SERIES: I Love My Church

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Key Line

When the church is completely engaged, God's power is fully unleashed.

Introduction

How is your group doing? You may want to take a few minutes just to check in. Are there any fears, do you have decisions you need to make in light of the current coronavirus situation. Pray and encourage everyone about the things we know to be true about God.

You might read and pray Isaiah 41:10.

*"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

Seek the Word

Read Revelation 3:7-13.

You are probably getting very familiar with these questions by now.

What church is Jesus, "who is holy, who is true", writing to?

What does He know about them?

What do they face?

What is different about the message to this church?

What does He not tell them?

What reward do they have coming?

What does He say about His return?

What do overcomers receive?

Talk About It

- How do you feel each week as we see that Jesus knows our deeds?
- How often do you think about the spiritual enemy, Satan, that you face? Do you know how to battle him?
- What does it mean to you that this church so little in might, so small in their own strength is commended for being mighty in His power? What is the difference between our own strength and His?
- What does it mean when Jesus says He is coming quickly? Did you know that this belief was one that caused scoffing and will continue to cause mocking of believers?
- Read 2 Peter 3: 3-4. "Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?"
- If your group is wrestling with this idea, this definition of the Greek word used for quickly may help.

Word study: Helps

5035 *taxý* (an adjective, used adverbially, and derived from 5036 /*taxýs*, "promptly") – properly, *swift* (quick), without *unnecessary delay*; used of God's *promptness* characterizing how He has ordered all physical scenes of life to happen on *His perfect timetable without unnecessary "delay"* (Rev 1:1, 22:6).

[5035 (*taxý*) does not mean "immediately" or necessarily "in a very short time" but rather "without any delay."]

- Remember in last week's letter that Jesus said, "if you don't wake up, I will come like a thief." How does the true definition of the word "quickly" relate to the idea of Him coming without warning to those who are not prepared?

Don't you just love how God has put His word together?

As you wrap up with prayer you may also discuss the comfort and joy we have in knowing our God to be the same from the beginning, that Jesus has said He is the Alpha and the Omega and that, "*He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.*"
Colossians 1:17