

CHRIST IN OUR MIDST
The Church In Ephesus: Be Loving
Revelation 2:1-7
Week 2 August 10, 2025
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Jesus gave the church instructions on how to be the church and share the gospel.

When Jesus talks to the church He is talking to us.
Some churches have drifted from where they began.
It is not what you do, it is why you do it that matters.

The Church in Ephesus

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. 2 I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. 6 But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:1-7 NIV

Ephesus was a flourishing commercial center and seaport.
It was a center of foreign trade.

Ephesus is busy doing the work of the church.
They have tried to remain holy and committed to Jesus.
They are a suffering church and have endured abuse.

JESUS KNOWS THE REAL YOU

Jesus knows our nature, our heart.

Verse 4 says, “I have this against you, that you have left your first love.”

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.’ 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Mat. 22:37-40 NIV

The Ephesian Church is so busy living and serving they forgot about their relationship with Jesus. Love is the priority within the heart of Jesus.

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 NIV

When my love for Christ fades, so does my love for people.

When I serve out of duty I do not care as I should about people.

The more you love God you will love the people He loves. The evidence of God’s love in you is how you treat your brother.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be children of your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:43-45a NIV

How do you do that?

JESUS RESTORES YOUR REPENTANT HEART

Therefore, remember from where you have fallen, and repent, and do the deeds you did at first. Revelation 2:5a NAS

Trust Jesus with all your heart. Remember, repent and return.
Say yes and walk with Jesus today.