

Home Group Questions - May 20, 2018
7 Churches of Revelation – The Church of Ephesus

1. Can you think of a movie or a book in which a couple that has been together for a long time has lost the passion and love they had for each other at first?
2. For those who have been married, how do you keep the love, passion and excitement in a marriage? What makes it difficult to do so?
3. Read Revelation 2:1-7 with your group.
4. Jesus condemns the church of Ephesus for “forsaking the love they had at first”. We are not sure whether they had lost their love for God or their love for others, or even perhaps both. Do you find it more difficult to maintain a true love and passion for God or for others?
5. Jesus commands the Ephesians to do three things in response to his message:
 1. *“Consider how far you have fallen”* (in other words, remember the love they once had)
 2. *“Repent”*
 3. *“Do the things you did at first”*

Why do you suppose Jesus gives these specific instructions? How are they helpful?

6. Notice that before Jesus condemns the Ephesians for their lack of love, he encourages them for their hard work and their perseverance. Why is it important for Jesus to encourage and uplift before he rebukes?
7. How is it that a church could be working hard for God while at the same time they have lost their love for God and others? Do you think that we are guilty of this in the church today?
8. Jesus makes a promise to those who heed his advice. He says, *“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.”*
What does Jesus mean by this? Why is this helpful for someone who has just been rebuked?

9. We see that Jesus structures his message to the church of Ephesus as follows:
 - The Good
 - The Bad
 - The Fix
 - The Reward

Why is this a good structure for his message to the church?

10. Pray with your group and ask God to help us to maintain our love and passion for him and his people.