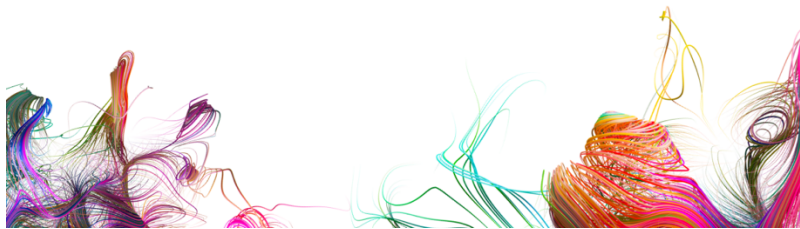


REVELATION

FINDING PEACE IN A
WORLD OF CHAOS




city
AWAKENING
C · H · U · R · C · H

Week 3: Letter 1: Abandoned Love

Date: Week of 1/21/24

Scripture: Revelation 2:1-7

Bridgebuilder Opening

1. Describe something that you have experienced that was great in ALMOST every aspect but missed on a key detail that messed up the whole experience (maybe a movie, show, meal, etc).
 - a. This letter is to a church that is strong in so many ways that a church should be strong but is missing a key element that could eventually lead to its downfall.

Observations and Interpretations

1. Read Revelation 2:1-7, and circle or highlight any words that stand out to you. What are some of your observations from this initial reading of the text?

2. List out the attributes that the Ephesian church is commended for in this text. How would you summarize them all together?

3. How would you feel about a church if you heard it described as this church was in verses 1-3? Would you want you and your family to be a part of it?

4. Why is it that a lack of ultimate love for Jesus would negate all of the positives we saw in verses 1-3? Explain how that process would happen.

5. What parts of being a doctrinally sound Christian do you find yourself doing without love as a foundation? What results have you seen?
6. What is the main thing John is trying to teach us in these verses?

Applications

1. This year our church is focusing on the theme of helping to bring *peace* into our lives and city. How can this text help give you *peace*, as you live in a world of chaos?
2. What are some ways that you can “remember your first love” and repent of lacking love in your life?
3. In one sentence, state one thing the Lord wants you to take away from this study.

The Gospel and Prayer

Going through the motions without knowing the reason for them or without love to motivate them is a surefire way to rob our lives of joy and lead to ineffectiveness. We see the centrality of love even in God sending Jesus to Earth in John 3:16. The famous “Love Chapter” 1 Corinthians 13 starts out by telling us that even great acts done for God turn to “noisy clatter” when not done in love. Let’s pray that God would continue to renew our love for Him and each other and that it would be the driving force empowering everything that we do.