

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

### The Seven—A Church That Loses Truth | Revelation 2:12-17

James Armstrong | March 17, 2019

#### DISCUSSION:

1. In this week's passage, Jesus describes Himself as "the one who has the sharp two-edged sword." Read Revelation 1:16, 2:12-17, Ephesians 6:17b, Hebrews 4:12 and Revelation 19:13-16. Why do you think Jesus starts the letter with a warning symbol?
2. Read Acts 15:28-29. Some people in the church at Pergamum were engaged in idol worship and some combined idolatry with sexual sin, contrary to the decree from Acts by the Council at Jerusalem. Why is this decree and Jesus' strong words to the church of Pergamum important to us today in our American culture?
3. Revelation 2:14 talks about eating food sacrificed to idols. Verse 17 speaks of "hidden manna." Read John 6:49-51 and 56-58. What "food" replacement is Jesus offering "to him who overcomes"?
4. In Revelation 2:16 the church of this city is told to repent. These words seem to include those who were commended in v.13 for remaining true to Jesus' name and not denying their faith amidst days of persecution. Why do you suppose Jesus is telling the whole church to repent and not just those with whom he will fight if there is no repentance?
5. Some churches in America are guilty of compromising, allowing the trends of the culture to creep into the church. Several of the seven churches in Revelation 2-3 dealt with false teachings. What are some false cultural teachings that have crept into some churches today? Use one of these as an example and discuss how that teaching should be tested.
6. Read Revelation 2:17b. How is it significant to you that the Lord Jesus will give you a white stone with a new name known only to you and Him?

#### APPLICATION:

1. Is there something that has replaced Jesus on the throne of your life? Identify it and set aside time this week to pray, and then choose to repent. Ask God to move and draw you back to Him wholeheartedly.
2. Do you know a brother or sister in Christ who is struggling with a particular sin? Contact them this week and begin a dialog toward connecting them in a greater way with their Lord.

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#### I. Well Done!

Rev 2:13; 6:9-11;  
Ps 46:1-3

#### II. We're not **there** yet.

Rev 2:14-15;  
Num 22-25

#### III. We need to **repent**.

Rev 2:16; 19:13-15

#### IV. We have a **promise**.

Rev 2:17