

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another... (John 13:34)

- Internal: How was your week...anything new?! How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- External: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement from us?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another... (Col. 3:16)

- 1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you? [Dialogue]
- 2. Let's read the primary text. What do we remember about the city of Laodicea? Let's bring everyone up to speed.
 - Extremely wealthy
 - Center for Banking
 - Center Clothing manufacturing
 - Center for Medicine
 - Had a water problem
- 3. In verse 14, Jesus refers to Himself as the beginning of God's creation. Was Jesus created? Was there a time where Jesus was not God? What biblical texts would you go to for clarification? Jesus always was. He was the originator. There was never a time where He was not God. (See John 1, Colossians 1, Hebrews 1)
- 4. Many pastors/scholars differ in their interpretation regarding the meaning of "hot and cold," but what can we conclude concerning this text regarding being "lukewarm." What does Jesus equate with being lukewarm?
 - Jesus is saying to the Laodiceans that their "lukewarmness" is due to their blatant self-reliance. It has made them wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.
- 5. In His grace, Jesus provides counsel to these Laodiceans. He says "so that" three times in this text. What does Jesus ultimately desire for them?
 - <u>so that</u> you may be rich (receive an unimaginable inheritance rather than being spiritually destitute)
 - <u>so that</u> you may clothe yourself (be clothed in His righteousness rather than fully exposed in sin) so that you may see (be able to see the reality of what really is)
- 6. So...how do you buy gold, white garments, and salve when you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked? What do you do when you are spiritually poor like these Laodiceans? What is Jesus' answer?
 - You dine with Jesus. You seek Him. You open the door to Him. You make Him your everlasting joy; your refuge and hiding place.

- 7. How does Jesus awaken us to the reality of our spiritual status?
 - Verse 9. Reproof and Discipline [See Hebrews 12:5-11]
- 8. In one word, how would you describe the church in Laodicea? [Dialogue]
- 9. Any closing thoughts concerning this text? What have you learned? [Dialogue]

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- Did you disciple your family well this week? Is Jesus the reason for your hope in your daily activity?

CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Is there anything you want to confess before the group? [apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply His word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.

HOMEWORK: Meditate on our weekly "Fighter Verse" - 1 Peter 2:9-10. How did last week's verse affect you? Did it cause you to pause or change anything as you progressed through the week?

Akin, Danny. Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Revelation. Pp. 101-109.