

## Weekly Study Guide | 12/01/24

### Message to the Church in Laodicea

Read [Revelation 3:14-22](#)

*14 “To the messenger of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation. 15 I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17 You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. 19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. 20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. 21 To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. 22 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”*

**Supporting Verses:** [Colossians 2:1-3, 4:12-17, 1:7; Philemon 1:23; Revelation 1:5; 2 Corinthians 1:20-22; Matthew 10:40-42; Ephesians 2:6-10; Mark 4:21-23; Luke 14:34-35](#)

### Questions:

1. What themes and topics do you find in the verses above regarding the church in Laodicea? What are some things that stand out to you? How would you summarize the main message with a word or a short sentence?
2. What encouragement and challenge did they receive? In what way was the church in Laodicea commended? How was the church corrected?
3. What is the context of this passage? What was the history of Laodicea? How does this relate to the message to the church?
4. What is the significance of Jesus being revealed as the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation? How does this impact the message?
5. Why does Jesus wish we were either hot or cold? What does this mean? What does it mean if we are lukewarm? How does this relate to the description of

being poor, naked, and blind? How does all of this apply in real life? What should we do if this is true of us?

6. What is the Spirit saying to the Church today? Is there a specific message for the church in America? How might this apply to us today?
7. Share a few takeaways from this lesson. What is a practical way you can apply this to your life? How can it help strengthen your relationship with God? What difference will this make to your daily walk with Christ?

**For later:** Please take time to prayerfully reflect on how this lesson relates to you. What did you learn? What are some personal takeaways and insights you gained? What is a practical way you can apply this to your life? How will this help strengthen your relationship with God? What difference will this make in your life? Is there anything you need to change in light of this lesson?

**Summary:** The message to the Laodicean church in Revelation 3:14-22 is quite profound. Jesus addresses the church in Laodicea, describing Himself as the "Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation." Jesus is the author of creation and has all authority over everything. We should take seriously what he says and heed his voice.

Jesus doesn't commend the church. Instead, he rebukes the church for being lukewarm—neither hot nor cold. They bring neither healing nor refreshing to those around them. This passage of scripture emphasizes the importance of being salt and light. The church goes from forsaking its first love to no longer being useful. They are warned that despite their wealth, they are spiritually wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. They are chastened to seek true riches, garments of righteousness, and spiritual insight from Him. Jesus urges them to be earnest and repent.

Jesus stands at the door and knocks, inviting anyone who hears His voice to open the door and receive Him. He promises that those who overcome will sit with Him on His throne, just as He overcame and sat down with His Father on His throne. Repentance is the only way back to the intimate relationship Jesus offers to those who respond to His call. We must open the door!