

The Church in Pergamos

Revelation 2:12-17

02.27.2022

Speaker: Pastor Daniel Fusco

Series: Revelation of Jesus Christ Series

Reflect

Outline: Recap

Realize

Points to Ponder

Respond

Questions to draw out understanding.

REFLECT

Jesus died and rose again, and poured out His Spirit, so that the church may be salt and light in this world. Both of those images, salt and light, show something that has a positive and important impact on something else. But the church has always struggled with becoming too identified with its host culture. And when the light is hidden, or the salt loses its flavor, it can't serve its God-given purpose. The church in Pergamos in Revelation 2 is having this same struggle.

REALIZE

1. Be distinct from the host culture

- **Scripture Reference:** Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 4:12
- **Leader Notes**
 - Jesus comes bringing words like a two edged sword to a church that is in the middle of the Roman imperial cult.
 - Jesus wants to reveal our hearts and motivations, the word of God brings justice and truth.
 - Jesus knows what the church is doing, and the context in which the church exists. No matter the context, Jesus wants the church to live distinctly.
 -
- **Questions for Reflection**
 - What does it look like to follow Jesus and remain distinct from the culture we live in?
 - How is Jesus inviting me to stand out from those around me?

2. Compromise is a killer

- **Scripture Reference:** Numbers 22-25, Numbers 31:15-16
- **Leader Notes**
 - The church was deemphasizing orthodoxy and was identified by their culture.
 - The doctrine of Balaam was to exploit the weakness of the people by tempting them to make compromises.
 - The church was similar, and they were compromising due to the pressures and temptations of their culture.
- **Questions for Reflection**
 - Where do I see unhealthy compromise in my life?

3. Let the word of God nourish you

- **Scripture Reference:** Jeremiah 15:16
- **Leader Notes**
 - Jesus wants us to live lives that line up with his word.
 - The word of God gives us a new identity, showing us who we are and who we aren't, and leading us to a place where we no longer give ourselves over to the things of this world.
 - God provides for us, forgives us, and knows us more deeply than we can understand. He asks us to simply respond to him.
- **Questions for reflection**
 - How is God speaking to me?