

**Study Questions for the June 26, 2022 Sermon:
“Church Struggles: Weak, Weary, and Warm”
Revelation 3**

Call to Worship: Isaiah 55:1-3

1. *Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy?*
 - a. Isaiah is speaking metaphorically here. Restate his question in more literal terms.
 - b. Before Jesus saved you, what were the things in your life (No general comments on American culture.), upon which you spent *wages for what does not satisfy*?
 - c. Now that you are saved, what are the unsatisfactory things upon which you still spend time and money?
 - d. What are the good, real, substantive things upon which you have expended your labor and wealth.
2. *You who have no money, come, buy, and eat:* (Do not attempt this at Pick n Save.)
 - a. To whom is this invitation extended?
 - b. Are the wine and milk literal or metaphorical?
 - c. In you answered “metaphorical”, then to what reality is the metaphor alluding?

Supreme Court Discussion:

3. Pastor Paul encouraged us to demonstrate Christ-likeness in our speech. How might this manifest itself when engaging in a discussion about abortion law?

4. Pastor Paul endeavored to discriminate between being merely anti-abortion vs truly pro-life. He gave some examples of NWB ministries. How might you demonstrate being pro-life in your day-to-day behavior?

Sermon: Revelation 3

Church in Sardis

5. The dying church in Sardis had a few members who *have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me*. At what point should those people stop trying to correct the problems in their church, and instead join a different congregation?
6. The advice to the church in Sardis surely applies to other dying churches. How does a church *wake up, and strengthen what remains?* (verse 2)
7. *I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God?* (verse 2)
 - a. What is meant by an incomplete work?
 - b. If we have any incomplete works at NWB, state what they are, and how we might complete them.

Church in Philadelphia

8. What can we learn from verse 8 about the relationship between the size of a church and its value in God's eyes?
9. Before commending the church at Philadelphia, Jesus describes himself as having *the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars*. What does it mean to you that Jesus has:
 - a. The seven spirits of God?
 - b. The seven stars?
10. What is symbolized by the white garments worn by conquerors in verse 5? Will we all wear white clothing in heaven?
11. What is the symbolism, in verse 7, to Jesus being to hold doors eternally shut or open?

12. In verse 9, Jesus condemns pseudo-Jews who were really the *Synagogue of Satan*. To whom was this referring?

Church in Laodicea

13. In what sense is Jesus *the Beginning of the creation of God*?

14. What are the particular spiritual hazards of being “lukewarm” vs being hot or cold.

15. Verse 17 makes the point that someone can be materially rich but spiritually *wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked*. Share a story of someone you knew who was the opposite: they possessed neither beauty nor wealth, but were glorious in the spiritual sense.