

The Seven Churches (for the week of 11th June)

Welcome

During Encounter we looked at the song- **So will I** Listen to this worship song and speak out any line that speaks to you and reflect on what it means to say for yourself....SO WILL I! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PsptFwDMOGs>

Word

In Revelation we read 7 messages for 7 specific churches that God gave to John while he was on the island Patmos. God wanted these churches to see and hear what He saw about their current position, reminding them of truths that would enable them to be all they were called to be so they could continue to be light in dark places effective in expanding the kingdom. These messages are beneficial not just for those 7 churches but contain valuable truths for us today.

Read and discuss the messages to the various churches and talk through the relevance that these passages hold for us today

1) Message to Ephesus - Read Revelation chapter 2 v1-6 Be passionate

What ways can we lose our passion? What are some of the signs? How can we regain passion and help each other?

2) Message to Smyrna – Read Revelation Chapter 2 v8-11 Be faithful

Stories are so powerful. Share of a story that has impacted you showing what faithfulness in tough times can look like?

3) Message to Pergamum – Read Revelation Chapter 2:12-17 Be watchful

In what ways do we need to stay watchful in our lives?

4) Message to Thyatira – Read Revelation chapter 2:18-29 Be Holy

What does this mean for us?

5) Message to Sardis –Read Revelation chapter 3 v1-6 Be awake

What are the signs a church or individuals could be asleep? How do we ensure we are awake?

6) Message to Philadelphia – Read Revelation 3v 7-13 Be Hopeful

In this passage there is no rebuke just a lot of promises.

When have you experienced God opening doors for you, God strengthening you and giving you hope when you needed it?

7) Message to Laodicea – Read Revelation 3v14-22 Be Sure

In what ways can our lives be hot for others (healing and soothing)

In what ways can our lives be cold for others (refreshing and cold)

In what ways can we be relying on our self rather than relying on God

Spend time praying for our church. Pray for:-

- 1) God's presence as we gather across the three locations
- 2) The new people that they would connect and find community
- 3) The Youth and kids work would continue to grow
- 4) Wisdom for staff and elders in decision making and how to support the various sites