

REVEAL-ATION
Reputation vs Reality

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(Revelation 3:1-22 ESV)

✓ Reputation is what people _____ you are.

Reality is who God _____ you are.

Discussion Questions

Starter Questions

Jesus urged Sardis to wake up! Have you ever experienced or witnessed sleepwalking?

Group Discussion

After hearing the message what was new to you? What prompted you to re-examine an issue, attitude, or behavior? What inspired you to dig deeper into God's Word?

What is your understanding of the difference between reputation and reality. What passage would you use to back up your position?

Jesus doesn't mention any external or internal problems that the Sardis Christians were facing. There's no mention of persecution or false doctrine or compromise or other suffering. How is a comfortable life sometimes a challenge to spiritual growth?

Jesus tells Sardis to "Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast..." He is telling them to remember the gospel they heard and received. Why is it important for us Christians to keep preaching the gospel to ourselves? How does this help our faith stay alive?

The message to the church in Philadelphia was primarily about authority. Why is ultimate authority so hard for us (as Americans) to submit to?

Pastor Landon talked about 3 potential open doors: (v 8) salvation, spiritual security, and service. Would you include any others?

Why does Jesus use the stark imagery of vomiting the lukewarm church out of His mouth (v16)? What does this tell us about spiritual complacency?

How does the wealth and self-sufficiency of Laodicea contrast with Jesus' assessment of their spiritual condition in verse 17?

Digging Deeper

Read Revelation 3:1-13. Notice how often Jesus says "I will..." do something. What stands out to you about the things He urges the churches to do and the things He promises them He will do?

How does "this is how we've always done it" relate to the old covenant and the new covenant? See Jeremiah 31:31-33 for assistance.

Christ encouraged Philadelphia in their faithfulness. How could you encourage someone else in their faithfulness this week?

Prayer Requests

Additional Resources

answer key: think, says

Discipleship on the Edge by Darrell Johnson

Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of Revelation by Nancy Guthrie

Revelation: Four Views by Steve Greg and Robert Clouse

When the Man Comes Around by Douglas Wilson

The Seven Churches of Revelation by Revelation Media with Christophe Hanauer

Announcements

If you'd like to donate any nonperishable food items for the **Blessing Box** outside, you can put them directly inside or drop them off on a Sunday morning.

Small groups are in session! Email info@newanthemchurch.com to join