

HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS

STUDY GUIDE

Revelation 2:1-7

Observation questions

1. According to Revelation 2:2-3, what specific things did Jesus commend the church in Ephesus for doing?
2. What was the primary issue Jesus had against this church, despite all the good things they were doing?
3. What three-step process does Jesus give them in verse 5 to correct their course?
4. What does the sermon say happens when a good thing, like a relationship or a career, becomes a "God thing"?

Interpretation questions

1. Why do you think it's possible for a person or a church to be doing all the right things—working hard, enduring patiently, and holding sound doctrine—but still have Jesus say they've "abandoned the love you had at first"?
2. The sermon defines repentance as "recognizing a missed mark and changing direction" rather than just feeling guilty. How does this definition change the way we understand and practice repentance in our daily lives?
3. Jesus warns that he will "remove your lampstand" if there is no repentance. What does the lampstand represent, and what would it mean for a church or an individual to have it removed?
4. The promise is for "the one who conquers." Based on the sermon, what exactly are we being called to conquer in our own hearts?

CAN YOU HANDLE THE WEIGHT?

STUDY GUIDE

Application questions

1. Jesus tells the church to "remember therefore from where you have fallen." Take a moment to remember your own "first love" experience with Jesus. What did that feel like? How does that memory compare to your relationship with Him today?
2. Repentance often means turning from good things that have become ultimate things. What is one "good thing" in your life—a relationship, a career goal, a possession—that you have been tempted to find your identity or fulfillment in, instead of in God?
3. The call is to be a steward of your gifts, not an owner. What is one practical way you can use a gift or talent this week to serve others and point them back to Jesus, the Giver, rather than to yourself?
4. Patient endurance shapes Christlikeness. What is one frustrating or isolating circumstance in your life right now that you can choose to see not as a punishment, but as a place where God might be giving you a deeper revelation of Himself?
5. The greatest blessing is a greater revelation of Jesus, but we rob ourselves if we have a deeper revelation and a lackluster response. What is one specific, obedient response you feel God is asking of you based on what He has been showing you about Himself?
6. If following Jesus has not cost you anything, it's because it's not worth anything. In what area of your life is God inviting you to pay a cost—to give up comfort, reputation, or control—to demonstrate that He is truly worth everything to you?
7. The enemy's first priority is to make Jesus second place. What is one seemingly small decision you can make this week to ensure that your love for Jesus is the first priority that leads everything else in your life?