

# The Seven Churches of the Revelation

Ephesus

Pastor Craig Sweeney / May 8, 2022

“The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place.”

**Thread:** “The revelation of Jesus” unravels the knots in my mind and heart. Revelation 1:1 ESV

**Text:** Revelation 2:1-3 ESV

- Jesus is present walking among them.
- Jesus’ intention is to encourage.
- We know their WORKS, TOIL and PATIENT ENDURANCE.
  - Acts 18-20 ESV

**Text:** Revelation 2:4-7 ESV

- **Don’t over complicate it.**
  - “*First love*” always involves passion.
  - Correct belief was slowly accepted as a consecrated heart.
  - Duty slowly replaced devotion.
  - Passion was slowly replaced by discipline and programs.
- **A truth in vivid detail:**
  - You can work hard and persevere in God’s Kingdom work, while losing your “*first love*” in the process.
- **Getting personal:**
  - What do you do to stir your passion; to refresh the fire of devotion for Jesus?
  - How do you “Love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength?”
  - What do you do for others motivated by Christ’s love in you?
- **What does the comeback look like?**
  - Acknowledge it to yourself and others.
  - “*Repent,*” and ask for forgiveness when necessary.
  - “*Remember*” the WHY.
  - Stop adding up the points.

- Rest in His love for you. (He wants you to respond to His passion for you.)

## Challenge:

- Have you lost your “*first love*?”
- How does the revelation of Jesus challenge your faith for the season you’re in?
- How does the revelation of Jesus unravel the knots of your heart?
- How does the revelation of Jesus help define your identity?



**DEVOTIONALS  
& MESSAGE  
RESOURCES**