



Week 2: Timeless Truth for Today's Church

Reclaiming old buildings has become a modern trend, but when it's an old church building, it's just a tragedy. When houses of worship lose their mission they eventually lose everything, including the building.. In Revelation 2–3, Jesus gives both warning and encouragement to seven real churches that also serves as a contemporary word for churches today. It's a call to stay committed to God's Word, endure hardship with courageous faith, and to boldly follow Jesus — whatever the cost.

Discussion Questions:

1. **Read Revelation 1:12–16.** How does John's vision of Jesus shape your understanding of who He is today? Why do you think Jesus wanted the churches to see this version of Himself first?
2. Jesus says to each church, "I know..." What does it mean to you that Jesus sees and knows what's happening in His Church? How does that bring comfort and conviction?
3. Shawn grouped five churches into three categories: Cold, Compromising, and Comfortable. Have you ever been part of a church that fell into one of these categories? How do you think it happened? A more pointed question: Do you think you contributed to it?
4. Jesus praised the churches in Smyrna and Philadelphia for their faithfulness. What does it look like for a church to be committed in the face of pressure or cultural opposition?
5. While Jesus is addressing local churches, let's not forget that he's writing to the people who made up those churches. As you relate these letters to your own spiritual journey, which of these four categories do you find yourself in currently and why: Cold, Compromising, Comfortable, or Committed? What step do you need to take to "return to your first love" and be a committed follower of Jesus?