

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.” Revelation 2:1-7
Key Points

What we need to know

Above all else, God desires a love relationship with me

What is one step I can take?

Today, I will take time to be with Jesus

Background

Ephesus was a dynamic urban centre with wealth, academia, an over sexualized culture (Temple of Artemis), business endeavours that integrated with the sexualized nature of the city.

The church in Ephesus was anchored in truth and stood firm in the midst of an urban centre

Revelation 2:1-7

Start talking. Find a conversation starter.

- What would it mean for you to persevere in your faith?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get thinking.

- What does Jesus say to the church at Ephesus (Both good and Bad)?
- How might you assess your love for Jesus, His people, and as witness in the world?
- Do you know why your love has either grown, plateaued, or decreased? Start sharing.

Choose a question to create openness.

- Of what things must you repent, remember, and/or redo to reignite the first love?

Pray Boldly

Jesus, you have shown incredible love to me through your life, death, and resurrection. Help me to show the same love to those I interact with today.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Start the *Revelation 3 Bible Plan With Friends*: <https://tinyurl.com/bvdfte6t>
- Consider how you could love others by serving at Westwood or in our community.