

# Discipleship Group

## LETTERS TO THE CHURCH Laodicea Group Study

**Full Message:** [https://youtu.be/BUj1dU04gAk?si=6ErFepFuh\\_\\_qTOWw](https://youtu.be/BUj1dU04gAk?si=6ErFepFuh__qTOWw)

This week, we continued our series, Letters to the Church by exploring the letter to **Laodicea**. Laodicea was a wealthy and self-sufficient city, famous for its banking, black wool textiles, and eye ointment. Yet it lacked one thing—living water. The church mirrored the culture: comfortable, confident, but spiritually lukewarm. Jesus rebukes their indifference, warning that comfort blinds us, apathy shuts Him out, and lukewarm faith nauseates Him. But the letter ends with hope—Jesus is still knocking, inviting His people back into intimacy with Him. If Laodicea could move from lukewarm to lit, so can we.

### Key Takeaways:

1. **Comfort clouds our vision** – The very things Laodicea prided itself on (wealth, fashion, medicine) were the areas Jesus called bankrupt. Comfort blinds us to our true spiritual condition
2. **Indifference is more dangerous than opposition** – Lukewarm faith doesn't offend the world, but it makes Jesus sick. Apathy is a slow leak that starves passion and zeal for God.
3. **Apathy shuts Jesus out** – The tragedy is not Jesus outside an unbeliever's heart, but Jesus outside His own church. Busyness without presence is emptiness.
4. **Passion is not personality—it's a spiritual discipline** – Zeal is cultivated, not inherited. We must choose to fan the flame of faith.
5. **Jesus is still knocking** – Even when we grow lukewarm, His love keeps pursuing us. He invites us into intimacy, fellowship, and purpose.
6. **Repentance leads to renewal** – History shows Laodicea eventually repented and the Gospel advanced. Repentance led to renewal.

### Key Scriptures

- **Revelation 3:15–16 (NLT)** – “I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other! But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth!”
- **Revelation 3:20 (NIV)** – “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”
- **Micah 6:8 (NIV)** – “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”



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## Observation Questions

1. What cultural strengths of Laodicea did Jesus expose as weaknesses?
2. How does the imagery of lukewarm water help us understand Jesus' rebuke in Revelation 3:15–16?

## Interpretation Questions

1. Why is indifference more dangerous to faith than persecution?
2. What emotions does the 'Light of the World' painting showing Jesus knocking on a door that can only be opened from the inside bring up in you?
3. How can comfort become the "silent assassin" of passion and zeal in our walk with God?



## Application Questions

1. In what areas of your life has comfort clouded spiritual vision?
2. Have I allowed apathy or routine to dull my passion for Jesus?
3. Where might I be tempted to settle for lukewarm Christianity rather than stepping out in faith?
4. How can I respond this week to Jesus' knock—making space for His presence in my daily life?