

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

Scripture

Revelation 3:14-22

Session Summary

Jesus had a specific message for each of the seven churches in Revelation, and the church at Laodicea was the last church He addressed. As He did with each church, He began with a reminder of who was addressing them. Jesus called Himself the "faithful and true witness" (v. 14). Jesus saw their true spiritual condition, and His faithful love compelled Him to correct them. Love compels us to do what is best for someone else. Like a parent who wants what is best for his child, Jesus wants what is best for His church. So, He corrects our self-destructive behavior. He redirects our path away from the poverty of sin to the riches of righteousness. Jesus cares more about our eternal well-being than our temporary comfort, so He confronts us for our own good. The Laodiceans' prosperity made them complacent, but Jesus rebuked them in order to reignite their zeal (v. 19).

Few things steal our zeal for God like a spirit of complacency. When we live like we don't need God and have arrived spiritually, we are living a lukewarm life. Complacency always leads to compromise. We get lazy and apathetic; we let our guard down, and that's when we are most vulnerable. But Jesus calls us to repent. He invites us to open the door and eat with Him again. Our zeal will be renewed when we turn from sin and spend time with Jesus. Zeal for God is only cultivated through fellowship with Jesus. So, spend time in the Word and live a repentant life every day.

- How is discipline actually an expression of love?
- How might a lack of physical needs make us lose our sense of need for God spiritually?
- How do laziness and sin put out our fire for God?
- What are some things we can do to reignite our fire for God?

Build a bonfire as a family. Cook some hotdogs and s'mores and discuss how a fire must be actively maintained. Compare that to our spiritual lives. Pray that God would help each of you avoid things that put out our spiritual fire and commit to actively cultivate zeal for God.