

The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – August 7th – Aug 12
Doing Life Together – Seven Churches of Revelation Pt 2

MONDAY: Acts 18:19, Acts 18:19

KEY VERSE: Revelation 2:1

OBSERVATION: "Ephesus" is the most important city of Asia at the mouth of the Cayster River, an important commercial and export center for Asia. Chartered as a free city by Rome. Contained temples to three Roman emperors. The Temple of Artemis (Diana) was four times the size of the Parthenon of Athens and considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Famous Christians who lived and ministered there include Aquila and Priscilla, Paul (Acts 19:8-10), Timothy (1 Timothy 1:3), and the Apostle John (Eusebius, Church History 5.8.4).

TUESDAY: 2 Corinthians 6:16, Genesis 17:8

KEY VERSE: Leviticus 26:11-12

OBSERVATION: God's walking in the midst of Israel does not refer to His accompanying and leading the people on their journeyings, but denotes the walking of God in the midst of His people in Canaan itself, whereby He would continually manifest Himself to the nation as its God and make them a people of possession, bringing them into closer and closer fellowship with Himself, and giving them all the saving blessings of His covenant of grace.

WEDNESDAY: Jeremiah 2:2, Matthew 24:12

KEY VERSE: Revelation 2:4

OBSERVATION: 2:4 "Abandoned the love you had at first." A discerning but cold orthodoxy (verse 2) had replaced the fervent, contagious love which once characterized the church (Matthew 24:12-14). 2:5 "Remove your lampstand." If the church turns inward and forsakes its light-bearing responsibility, the Christ removes it ("your lampstand") from the community. See Isaiah 42:6-7; 49:6. How can a local congregation lose its "first love" for Jesus? What are the signs of genuine love for Jesus in worship and ministry? How does the lack of love show up? How can a congregation regain this love?

THURSDAY: Proverbs 11:30, Proverbs 15:4

KEY VERSE: Revelation 2:7

OBSERVATION: "Nicolaitans" were a sect in the church that led Christians to compromise the holy standards of the church by encouraging involvement with the idolatry and sexual immorality (2:6, 15, 20-21) that was prevalent in the idolatrous culture of Ephesus and surrounding pagan cities.

FRIDAY:

KEY VERSE: Revelation 2:7

OBSERVATION: The Greek verb *nikao*, means "to win in the face of obstacles, be victor, conquer, overcome, prevail" (BDAG 673). We resist and stand successfully against Satan's temptations by our faith. This word is used a number of times in Revelation. How is a Christian able to overcome according to the following verses?

SATURDAY:

KEY VERSE: Revelation 2:1-7

OBSERVATION: Remember "Remember therefore from where you have fallen" (Revelation 2:5). If we have left something or someone, the first step is to remember where we started. **Repent** The next logical step after remembering where we started and realizing where we are now is to repent. This means to reverse course and go in the opposite direction. ". . . repent . . ." (Revelation 2:5). **Repeat** Repeating to the original good works will help you get back to the place where you began. ". . . do the first works" (Revelation 2:5). Return to what you did when you first became a Christian—the spiritual disciplines that kept you close to Christ and motivated to follow Him.