

## Letters to the Church - Week 2

Scripture Passage: Revelation 2:1-7

**Read:** Revelation 2:1-7

1. There are a lot of things that this church seems to be doing well. Discuss those and what they may have looked like practically.
2. One of the things the church had to deal with was that being a Christian was not looked on favorably (2:3). In the worst-case scenario that could mean exile (like John) and at the very least many had to deal with being on the margins of society. Have you ever had to deal with anything similar because of your Christian faith? If so, in what way?
3. While Jesus commended them, he was also clear that something was wrong (2:4) Read Eph. 6:24 and Eph. 5:2 to see what Jesus might be referencing regarding their first love. How do you think they got to the place where their love had faded?
4. How can we ensure that our devotion to God doesn't get replaced by 'doing' things for God?

**Read:** John 15:1-17

5. Fruit is the actions that come out of who we are and what we believe. Talk about the imagery that Jesus uses in this passage and how it might help us to answer question #4 above.
6. Jesus clearly desires that we stay relationally, connected to him in the same way we do a friend, family member, or spouse. So, what does that look like? How can we have an intimate relationship with God without it devolving into just another religious checklist?