A Church Approved by God: Be Repentant Laodicea Revelation 3:14-22

I. The City:

- 1. Famous for black wool.
- 2. Eye salve was sold for eye problems.
- 3. Known for its riches and gold.
- 4. Known for its hot and cold water springs.
- 5. City was rebuilt after earthquake and was "better than before".
- II. The Lord: The Amen, Faithful and True, and the Source of creation.

"Amen" – (OT word for God) - The True One, the One who makes it so.

"Faithful and True" - Real, genuine, and trustworthy.

"Source of Creation" - Creator and overseer of everything.

III. The Rebuke: Come to me or you will die.

Poor - Spiritually bankrupt and empty

Naked - Exposed and shameful

Blind - Deceived and unaware

IV. The Command: Trust me and turn to me.

Hebrews 12:6,10 – "For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines.... He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness."

Accept discipline - Yield to His loving correction.

Be zealous - Be passionate for Christ and his holiness.

Matthew 7:7 - "Ask and you will receive..."

2 Timothy 1:6 - "For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you..."

Repent - Turning from the wrong direction and turning back to the Lord

- V. The Promise: Intimate Fellowship and reigning with God
- 1 John 5:4-5 "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"
- 1 Corinthians 6:2-3 "Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? ...Do you not know that we will judge angels? ..."
- 2 Timothy 2:12 "If we endure, we will also reign with Him...."

Faith Sheet

Transformation verse - Jesus said... "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

Main Themes

- ~ The Lord Jesus is the The Amen, True and Faithful One, and the beginning of Creation. (Revelation 3:14)
- ~ God disciplines those He loves. (Hebrews 12:1-11)
- ~ Only God can bring to life the dead and the blind. He sends His people as His instruments of sight and life. (Ephesians 2:1-10)
- ~ God promises that all believers will eternally enjoy intimate friendship with Him and eternally reign with Jesus Christ. (Revelation 3:20-22)

#1- Reviewing this Past Sunday A Church Approved by God: Be Repentant Laodicea - Revelation 3:14-22

- 1. Read Revelation 3:14-22. Discuss the message with someone.
- 2. What did you learn about the Lord?
- 3. What contributes to a person becoming lukewarm? A family? A small group? A church?
- 4. What earthly comforts or distractions are keeping your heart from being passionate toward Christ?
- 5. Is anything or anyone keeping you from being urgent in declaring the Good News of Christ to other people? What will you do about it?
- 6. Why does God discipline those He loves? (Romans 8:28-29, Hebrews 12:4-11)
- 7. How do His promises in Rev. 3:20-22 encourage you to live today?
- 8. If the Lord would write a letter to you and to MCC, what do you think He would say?

2- Preparing for Next Sunday Following Jesus: Knowing and Following Jesus Matthew 16:13-28

- 1. Read Matthew 16:13-28. What does Jesus ask? (13)
- 2. What answers did He receive, and what do they have in common? (14)
- 3. What does the Lord ask those following Him and why? (15)
- 4. What is the importance of correctly answering the question, "Who is Jesus?" (Romans 10:9-10 and 1 John 5:12)
- 5. What is Peter's confession, and where did the answer originate? (17)
- 6. Jesus then says on Peter's confession the church will be built and have authority to go to all people. (18-19) What does this promise mean for a local church like MCC?
- 7. Read verses 21-28 and describe what a true follower of Christ will look like and evaluate where you are right now with Christ.
- 8. When is the last time you confessed who He is to someone else? Pray for us to be confident in making Him known to others.