

Seven: Letters of Revelation Letter to Pergamum Revelation 2:12-17 05/26/2019

INTRODUCTION

When has there been a time that you used the statement, "You can't have your cake and eat it too"?

Why is making choices so difficult in life?

What have been some choices in your life that you tried at first to compromise to have it both ways, but then you ended up having to choose one way versus another?

UNDERSTANDING

Revelation 2:12-13.

How were the Christians in Pergamum being tested? (Pergamum believers both resisted false teaching and endured persecution).

Why might Jesus' letter have been comforting to the church at Pergamum?

What did Jesus commend about the church's behavior? Why was it important to note Antipas' faith to the church?

What impact does it make in your life to see other brothers and sisters in Christ enduring for the Lord?

Share how you have been encouraged by someone's faith during difficult times.

Revelation 2:14-15.

Given their testing, why do you think this church tolerated false teaching?

What are some of the ways in our culture that we might be tempted to tolerate false teaching in the church?

What does it mean that someone becomes permissive towards compromise?

What does it mean that the most dangerous lie is that which is closest to the truth?

Revelation 2:16-17.

What does Jesus call for the people to do in these verses?

Why is repentance valuable to the Christian walk? Why is repentance more than just stating that you have done wrong?

Why does God take false teachings so seriously? Why should we?

What do we communicate to God when we allow something other than His Word to guide our lives? What about when we know His Word, but our lives don't reflect it?

The church at Pergamum was guilty of religious tolerance, and Jesus was aware of it. How might our church be pressured to participate in the kind of tolerance that Jesus corrected here?

APPLICATION

What do we, as a church, stand to lose if we choose to tolerate false teaching?

Why is it important that we "speak the truth in love" (Eph. 4:15) as we seek to correct false teaching?

How might we, as a group, help one another recognize and be on guard against the influences of false teaching? How might we help one another hold fast to the gospel of Jesus Christ?