



Seven: Letters of Revelation
Sardis: The Story Behind the Statistics
Revelation 3:1-6
06/09/2019

INTRODUCTION

**In your own words, what does it mean to be indifferent?
What is something in your life that you act indifferent towards?
Is there anything in your life that you take serious, but others act indifferent towards it? How does it feel when there is something you are passionate about and others are not?
In your spiritual journey with Jesus, what are some things that you find yourself being indifferent towards? How has it impacted your life?**

UNDERSTANDING

Questions for reflection:

- Do you agree with all of these? Do you disagree with any of these?
 - Which one of these points challenged you the most?
 - Which one of these points taught you something about the church you didn't know before?
 - From a personal perspective, are there any of these that you have experienced individually?
- Revelation 3:1.

What did the works of the church at Sardis reveal about their spiritual condition?

**Has there been a time when you ever have had to confront or been confronted about your attitude? How did you respond? How did it change you?
Why is it important to have this type of relationship and accountability within the church body?**

- Have a volunteer read Revelation 3:2-3.

**If you had to explain the condition of the church in Sardis in your own words, what kinds of things might you say to characterize this church that has the reputation of being alive, but is actually dead?
Why is this such a scary possibility?**

How might good works hide a spiritually dead church? In what way are works incomplete (v. 2)?

What, then, did Jesus tell this church to do (v. 3)?

Why should the church in Sardis be an example to churches today?

How can remembering the blessings of God serve to awaken a church that is spiritually dead?

What, then, in your own words, was the action point for this church that needed correction?

Are you ready to move from a consumer to a contributor? How would your life look different in your made that move and shared the same desires?

- Revelation 3:4-6.

What do these verses reveal about some of the Christians in Sardis?

Who is someone that you can encourage this week to not give into the world but to keep following the Lord?

Why is the church to be a movement and not an institution?

What are some areas in your life that you have been living in fear over faith?

How can the church help you to develop your faith and experience spiritual growth? When is the last time that you developed a growth plan for your life spiritually?

How does this represent sin in our walk with Christ?

What does it mean to “Be alert and sober minded” in 1 Peter 5:8?

Why is suffering a part of the Christian life? How does it help us even when it hurts us?

APPLICATION

What lesson is there for you to learn from the story of Sardis?

Think about your home. What do you and your family “appear to be” to those watching from the outside? How does that compare with what you are actually living like?

Why is merely going through the motions of spiritual life or church life so easy to do? How have you seen this tendency creep into your life or your family’s life? What is one step you could take toward counteracting this tendency?

How can we be a group that helps its members remain aware of who they are in God?