

**A FOLLOWING CHURCH**  
**Part 5: REAL LOVE (SARDIS)**  
**February 10, 2019**

“We love, because He first loved us.”

I John 4:19 (NAS)

**CHRIST REVEALS HIMSELF**

“To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this ...”

Revelation 3:1 (NAS)

“The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.”

Isaiah 11:2 (NAS)

“As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.”

Revelation 1:20 (NAS)

- **Christ describes Himself as the One who has what this Church desperately needs:**

The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. **Without them this Church is as good as dead.**

**CHRIST CONDEMNS THE NEGATIVE**

“... I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.” Revelation 3:1-2 (NAS)

- **The Church in Sardis had a \_\_\_\_\_ for being alive. But the \_\_\_\_\_ was – it’s \_\_\_\_\_.**

**CHURCHES DIE WHEN ...**

“Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. They will reject the truth and chase after myths.”

II Timothy 4:2-4 (NLT)

**1. \_\_\_\_\_ REPLACES \_\_\_\_\_.**

“... go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

2. THE \_\_\_\_\_ BECOMES THE

\_\_\_\_\_.

"...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."  
Matthew 20:28 (NIV)

3. A \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ MINDSET REPLACES A \_\_\_\_\_ MINDSET.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ IN NON-CORE ISSUES BECOMES A \_\_\_\_\_.

### REVIVING A DYING CHURCH

'Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. So remember what you have received and heard; and keep *it*, and repent."  
Revelation 3:2-3 (NAS)

1. \_\_\_\_\_: CONFRONT \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_: THE \_\_\_\_\_ AND THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE CHURCH.

3. \_\_\_\_\_: ON WHAT \_\_\_\_\_.

4. \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ IS THE \_\_\_\_\_ IN THE DEATH OF A CHURCH. OTHERWISE...

"...Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you."  
Revelation 3:3 (NAS)

"But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."  
Revelation 3:4-6 (NAS)

### Bibliography

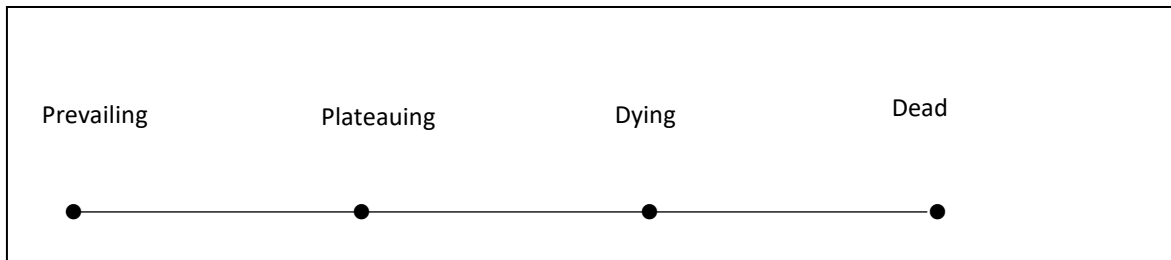
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**MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS ...**

If GNG is my Church home, what condition do I believe it is in?



What am I willing to do to make GNG a prevailing Church?

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In light of Christ's letter to the Church in Sardis, what do you think Christ would write to GNG? E-mail your thoughts to [jeff@goodnewsgathering.org](mailto:jeff@goodnewsgathering.org).

If I am not a Christian, discover what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.  
• Check box on back of Communication Card.

Prepare for next week's lesson by reading Revelation 3:7-13 and reviewing the Revelation Study Guide at [www.goodnewsgathering.org](http://www.goodnewsgathering.org) at the Resource tab.