

A FOLLOWING CHURCH
Part 6: LOVE IS A VERB (PHILADELPHIA)
February 17, 2019

“We love, because He first loved us.”

1 John 4:19 (NAS)

CHRIST REVEALS HIMSELF

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:”

Revelation 3:1 (NAS)

‘And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory.”

Isaiah 6:3 (NIV)

“The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”

Luke 1:35 (NIV)

“What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!”

Mark 1:24-25 (NIV)

‘We have come to believe and to know that You are the Holy One of God.”

John 6:69 (NIV)

“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14 (NIV)

“I will place on His shoulder the key to the house of David; what He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open.”

Isaiah 22:22 (NIV)

- **Christ reveals Himself to this Church that had a little power as the _____**
_____, the _____ of _____, and the
_____ over the Kingdom of Heaven.

CHRIST REWARDS AND COMMENDS THE POSITIVE

“I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name ... Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”

Revelation 3:8, 10 (NAS)

- **Christ gave this Church an _____ because it had:**
1. A _____.

“Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world’s eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And He chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.”
I Corinthians 1:26-29 (NLT)

“That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”
II Corinthians 12:10 (NIV)

2. Kept _____.

“We know that we have come to know Him if we keep His commands. Whoever says, “I know Him,” but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. But if anyone obeys His word love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in Him: Whoever claims to live in Him must live as Jesus did.”
I John 2:3-6 (NIV)

3. Not Denied _____.

“Whoever acknowledges Me before others, I will also acknowledge before My Father in heaven. But whoever disowns Me before others, I will disown before My Father in heaven.” Matthew 10:32-33 (NIV)

4. _____.

“Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are My followers. And many will turn away from Me and betray and hate each other. And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.”
Matthew 24:9-14 (NLT)

• **Christ promised to:**

“Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.”
Revelation 3:9 (NAS)

1. _____ The Opposition.

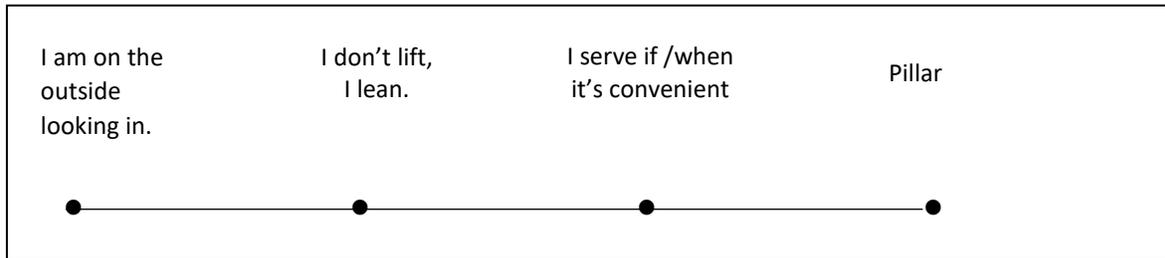
“I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown. He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”
Revelation 3:11-13 (NAS)

2. Make Them A _____.

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.” [1 Corinthians 9:24-25 \(NIV\)](#)

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS ...

If GNG is where I typically attend, how do I see my involvement?



What am I willing to do to become a pillar?

In light of Christ's letter to the Church in Philadelphia, what opportunity do you think Christ would put before GNG? E-mail your thoughts to 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 3:14-22](#) and reviewing the Revelation Study Guide at www.goodnewsgathering.org at the Resource tab.