

Calibrate: Philadelphia + Laodicea Leader Guide

Breaking the Ice

1. What is your favorite hot drink? What is your favorite cold drink?

Getting Started

1. Read Revelation 3:7-13. What do you think an open door (an opportunity) in life looks like?

Open doors are not about comfort, ease, your capability or even without obstacles or oppressors. The Philadelphians had an open door in an uncomfortable circumstance; they only had a "little strength" and there were clear oppressors from those that Jesus calls from "the Synagogue of Satan."

2. In Rev. 3:8, Jesus tells the Philadelphians that they have "little strength." We all have a little strength, whether that is our portion of experience, ability, wisdom, etc. How would you describe your "little strength"?

3. Read Revelation 3:14-19. What do you think Jesus is saying when he describes the Laodiceans as lukewarm?

Cold water is useful for refreshing, hot water is useful for healing. Lukewarm water isn't good for anything. It's unappetizing, even. The Laodiceans had un-useful Christianity.

Digging Deeper

1. What are the attributes about the church in Laodicea that you think caused Jesus to call them lukewarm?

They were proud and felt sufficient in their wealth, their reputation and in their security. They had a comfortable Christianity, not a real one. Jesus is particularly vocal about their wealth and how deceived they were by it.

2. What do you believe is the purpose of the Church? Why does the Church (the whole body of believers in Jesus Christ...not necessarily just any particular church) exist?

3. What are some of the barriers you see that are keeping the Church from becoming what it is supposed to become?

Bringing It Home

1. What are some of the open doors in your life right now? How can you walk through them in Jesus' name?
2. Are you relying more on your little strength or on God's great strength right now? What would it look like for you to rely more on God's strength in your life?
3. Where would you classify yourself: (1) hot, (2) cold, or (3) lukewarm in your relationship with Jesus right now? Where would you like to be?