

**THE FATAL FLAW**

Revelation 2:1-7

**ALL AUTHORITY**

Jesus has the authority, the care, and the knowledge to perfectly evaluate His church. The fact that Jesus holds the messengers of the churches in his right hand shows that he has the authority to command his church. The right hand represented authority, and holding the messengers there shows that He is the one who deploys with what He has to say. Jesus- He commands His churches and sets their agenda. Who else is more qualified to evaluate their faithfulness to the mission than the one who sent them on the mission in first place? He is the only one who has the right to judge the church.

But Jesus has more than just the right to judge the church. He also cares about her and knows her well enough to judge her *well*.

Revelation 2:1-7 // Matthew 28:18-20

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The love they forgot was the love they were called to have for the world- the love that led God to send Jesus to the cross. They were an embattled church that had fought well, but, surrounded by opposition, they had resorted to self-protection and abandoned the very mission they were called to.

They had their doctrine right, and the life that lined up with it. They didn't yield under persecution. But they forgot that the very point of those things is that they bear witness to Christ- to his reign over his church, to how good and satisfying and powerful he is- so that others would run to Him.

Revelation 2:4-5

**The mission that started out as "make disciples"  
has subtly become "hold the fort".**

**OUR RESPONSE**

The first thing Jesus calls them to do is to *remember*. The key to rightly enflaming our hearts for the world is not to do something, but to look back on something that has already been done. Remember who we were, what has been done for us, and remember that God is still saving people.

All this remembering: who we were, what God did for us, and how he is still working- leads us to the second response- that is to repent. That is simply to turn around, to walk the other way- this is where we actually step out and engage the world in love instead of fear or compromise.

Colossians 1:24 // 2 Peter 3:9 // Romans 8:31-39

**NOTES:**

**This Week's Scripture to Memorize:**

**2 Corinthians 10:17**

Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.

**ARE YOU NEW HERE?**

**WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!**

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

**WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?**

In our children's ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, we have classes for **newborns-5th grade**, along with a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walk-through of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Katie McGinty at Katie@lifemission.tv**

**JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL**

Our **6th-8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their class with their teacher and classmates for the rest of the service. Visit our website to read more about our Junior High Ministry and a walk-through of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders** stay in the service with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school. Our **wid-week High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM**, here at Classical Academy in the Study Hall. For more info or questions about our student ministries, email **Casey Barnes at Casey@lifemission.tv**.



## Contact Us

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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before your group starts, is there anyone who can share the Memory Verse?

Read **Revelation 2:1-7**. What stuck out to you in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? \_\_\_\_\_

List the ways that Jesus encourages the church in Ephesus. And in what way does Jesus see that church needs to improve in? \_\_\_\_\_

Read **Matthew 28:18-20**. In this passage as well as Revelation 2:1-7 Jesus commands His churches and sets their agenda. Who else is more qualified to evaluate their faithfulness to the mission than the one who sent them on the mission in first place? \_\_\_\_\_

According to Jesus, the church in Ephesus is legit. Discerning. Uncompromising. Courageous: how would God assess Life Mission Church in these areas? Especially as mainstream moves further and further from where we are called to stand?

- Do we know scripture well and examine the teaching we put ourselves under, or do we leave ourselves vulnerable to anyone who can turn a phrase or twist a verse just so? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do we hate evil, first and foremost, by consistently putting our own sin to death through repentance and trusting the Gospel? And then by lovingly calling our brothers and sisters to do the same? Or do we instead, drift; letting the appetites of the day move the bar from where the Lord has set it? \_\_\_\_\_
- Are we willing to accept the cost of following Christ, or are we selectively faithful and bold only when we can minimize the price? Is being faithful constantly being weighed against what it may cost you; whether relational comfort, economic opportunity, position or standing? \_\_\_\_\_

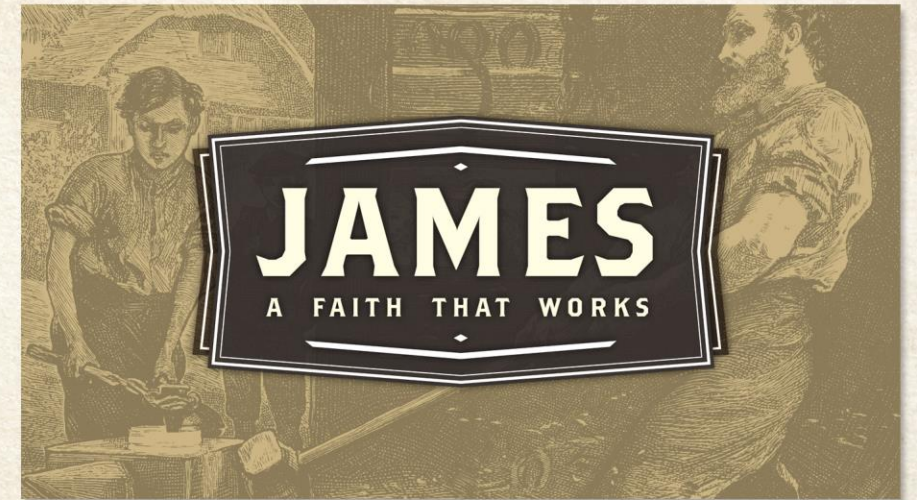
What is your first love? What is your heart like toward those you work with, or in your neighborhood who oppose you but desperately need the rescue of the Gospel? When is the last time you shared the love of Christ with someone when it could cost you something? \_\_\_\_\_

End group by reading **Romans 8:31-39**. Remind yourself Christian, you are more than a conqueror in Christ. You are secure. Pray that the reality of the Gospel will fuel your repentance and lead you into fearless, evangelistic love for the world.



**LIFE MISSION**  
C H U R C H

**MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,  
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.**



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Revelation 2:1-7 // August 20, 2017

## SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

**GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE**

**LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM**

