

- Am I Lukewarm?

How do we know when someone is passionate about something?

Bike: ride, talk, teach, # of bikes, smile

Some think I overdo it!



- Consider your ways
  - paneled houses vs. temple in ruins
  - sown much, harvested little
  - eat, never enough
  - drink, never have fill
  - clothed, not warm
  - wages in a bag with holes
  - Consider your ways

## **You Are Lukewarm**

**I know your works;  
you are neither cold nor hot.  
Would that you were  
either cold or hot!  
So, because you are lukewarm,  
and neither hot nor cold,  
I will spit you out of my mouth.**

**Revelation 3:15-16, NT p. 429**



- Clearly our Savior doesn't like lukewarmness
  - Because it so easily deceives us into thinking things are okay.
  - It is the essence of complacency and going with the flow.
  - Comfortable.





- Why am I lukewarm?
- This is not intended as a guilt trip.
  - Unless you need it.
- Lukewarmness most often happens without making a conscious, specific point, decision.
- We easy into it, and still feel we are making progress.
- So let's consider our ways...

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

- Why am I lukewarm?

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

I **FEAR** God.

I **LOVE** God.

- I FEAR God more than I LOVE God.
  - It's not wrong to fear God, in the sense of respect Him and honor his power and authority
- Hebrews 10:26-31 (ESV) 26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. 29 How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.**

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

I'm **distracted**  
by the world.

I'm **fruitful** for God.

- I'm distracted by the world more than I'm fruitful for God.

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

I'm **satisfied** with myself.

I'm **desirous** of God.

- I'm satisfied with myself (my life), more than I'm desirous of God.



## Why Am I Lukewarm?

I feel like a  
**servant** of God.

I am **child** of God.

- I feel like a servant of God more than a child of God.

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

“If anyone would be first, he must  
be last of all and servant of all.”

Mark 9:35, NT p. 77

I feel like a  
**servant** of God.

I am **child** of God.

- Mark 9:35: And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

"But whoever would be great among  
you must be your servant."

Mark 10:43, NT p. 80

I feel like a  
**servant** of God.

I am **child** of God.

- Mark 10:43: But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

"We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty."

Luke 17:10, NT p. 80

I feel like a **servant** of God.

I am **child** of God.

- Luke 17:7-10 (ESV) 7 "Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? 8 Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? 9 Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? 10 So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"



## Why Am I Lukewarm?

"I am no longer worthy to be called your son.  
Treat me as one of your hired servants."

Luke 15:19, NT p. 135

I feel like a  
**servant** of God.

I am **child** of God.

- Luke 15: The Lost Son - Servant vs. Son
- Luke 15:19: I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."
  - Duty more than joy (habit, ritual vs. worship)
  - Grumbling more than praise (Israel in the wilderness vs. Habakkuk 3:17-19)
  - I can't meet His standards, so why try?
- No longer WORTHY!
- Relationship!

**Why Am I Lukewarm?**

I feel like a  
**servant** of God.

“For this my son was dead, and is  
alive again; he was lost, and is  
found. And they began to celebrate.”

Luke 15:19, NT p. 135

I am **child** of God.

- Luke 15:24: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

I feel like a  
**servant** of God.

“No longer do I call you servants ...  
but I have called you friends.”

John 15:15, NT p. 189

I am **child** of God.

- John 15:15: No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.
- Relationship: Child, friend, and servant.

**Why Am I Lukewarm?**

I give God **leftovers.**

I give God my **all.**

- I give God my leftover, not my all.



## Why Am I Lukewarm?

"When they grazed, they became full, they were filled, and their heart was lifted up; therefore they forgot me."

Hosea 13:6, OT p. 1457

I give God **leftovers.**

I give God my **all.**

- Forgetting God

- Hosea 13:5-6 (ESV) 5 It was I who knew you in the wilderness, in the land of drought; 6 but when they had grazed, they became full, they were filled, and their heart was lifted up; therefore they forgot me.

## Why Am I Lukewarm?

“When you offer blind animals in  
sacrifice, is that not evil?”

Malachi 1:8, OT p. 1536

I give God **leftovers.**

I give God my **all.**

- Dishonoring God

- Malachi 1:8 (ESV) When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the Lord of hosts.

**Why Am I Lukewarm?**

“Oh that there were one among  
you who would shut the doors,  
that you might not kindle fire on  
my altar in vain!”

Malachi 1:10, OT p. 1536

I give God **leftovers.**

I give God my **all.**

- Malachi 1:10: Oh that there were one among you who would shut the doors, that you might not kindle fire on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, says the Lord of hosts, and I will not accept an offering from your hand.

**Why Am I Lukewarm?**

I give God **leftovers.**

**"You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart and with all your  
soul and with all your mind."**

*Matthew 22:37, NT p. 43*

I give God my **all.**

- All

- Matthew 22:37 (ESV) And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.



## Why Am I Lukewarm?

I give God **leftovers.**

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me."

Galatians 2:20, NT p. 325

I give God my **all.**

- Changes my life every moment
  - Galatians 2:20 (ESV) I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- Relationship

**Why Am I Lukewarm?**

<b>LUKEWARM</b>	<i>ZEALOUS</i>
<p>I <b>FEAR</b> God.</p> <p>I'm <b>distracted</b> by the world.</p> <p>I'm <b>satisfied</b> with myself.</p> <p>I feel like a <b>servant</b> of God.</p> <p>I give God <b>leftovers</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>LOVE</b> God.</p> <p>I'm <b>fruitful</b> for God.</p> <p>I'm <b>desirous</b> of God.</p> <p>I am <b>child</b> of God.</p> <p>I give God my <b>all</b>.</p>

- Lukewarm vs. Zealous
  - Fear, distracted, satisfied, servant, leftovers
  - Love, fruitful, desirous, child, all

**Why Am I Lukewarm?**



**Lukewarmness** is about my **heart**.

- Being lukewarm is not about what I am doing, or not doing (“I know your works”).
- Rather it is a matter of the condition of my heart and my relationship with God.

**Why Am I Lukewarm?**



**Lukewarmness** is about my **heart**.

**Be in love with God again.**

- I need to be in love with God again.
  - Psalms 37:31 (ESV) The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip.



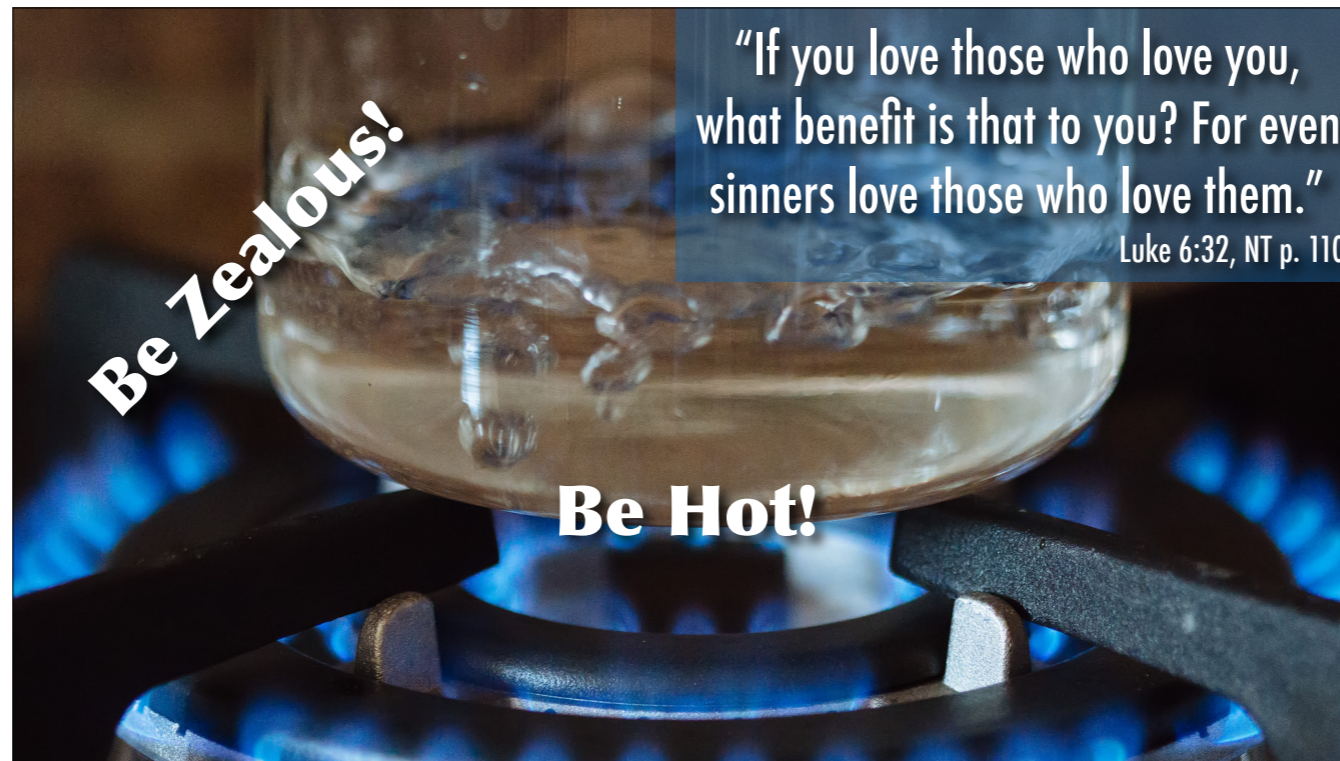


- Overcoming lukewarmness: Revelation 3:19-21
  - So obviously we need to get hot, light a fire ... and other cliché's
  - But easier said than done.



- Be Zealous
  - don't delay... do it now





- don't just do enough ... seek to do more, excel
  - Luke 6:32-36 (ESV) 32 "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. 35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. 36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.



- delight in God
  - Psalms 40:8 (ESV) 8 I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.”
  - Think of your relationship with God as a blessing, not a burden.





- It's much more than just an emotion of enthusiasm, or passion (which like other emotions, comes and goes. It is hard to maintain.)
  - Zeal is choice, a determination and dedication to something or someone. It is active and deeply rooted in our character.



- Romans 12:11: Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.
- For God, what work does He want me to do? What gift have I been given and am I growing it and using it to His glory?





- Repent
  - Yes, we need to change our minds
  - Recognize that we've deceived ourselves
  - Make real changes in attitude and actions





- Open Door
  - Relationship!
  - Get started, don't delay.



- Conquer
  - Like soldier
  - 2 Timothy 2:3-4 (ESV) 3 Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.





- Questions I must ask myself today.
  - Do I really love God?
  - Am I being fruitful for God?
  - Am I seeking God earnestly?
  - Am I walking as a son of God?
  - Am I completely His?
- What changes must I make today?

**We implore you on  
behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.**

**2 Corinthians 5:20**

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## Why Am I Lukewarm? (part 2)

Revelation 3:15-16

Synopsis: Jesus warns us about the danger of lukewarmness in his later to the church in Laodicia. In this lesson, we'll look at some reasons why we so easily default to lukewarmness and see how to overcome it.

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**"Let all that you do be done with love."**