



- Scripture Reading: John 10:1-10
- Psalms 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.
- Proverbs 1:32 For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them;



- Jesus has a message for the saints in Laodicea
 - Written for our learning too.
- Why should we listen? Why should we consider what he says?
- The words of ...
 - The Amen
 - The Truth
 - The Faithful and True Witness
 - He knows, verifies, truth
 - The Beginning of God's Creation
 - Creator ... He knows us - loves us



- Revelation 3:14-22



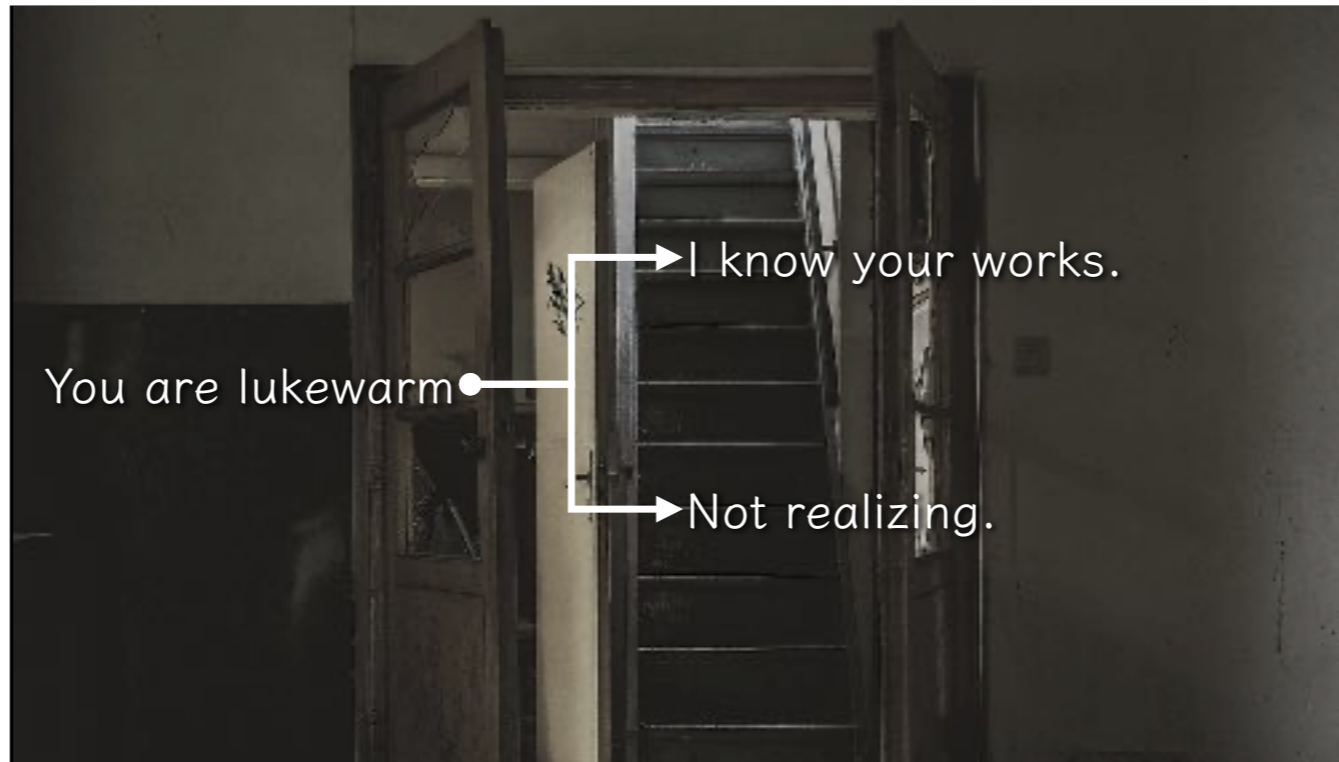
- Hot = fervent, boiling
- Cold = very cold (antithesis): like the world, dead, unsaved
- Lukewarm
 - If moving toward hot, good transition
 - If just staying lukewarm, then dangerous condition: feels safe
 - Complacency
 - Proverbs 1:32 (ESV) 32 For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them;



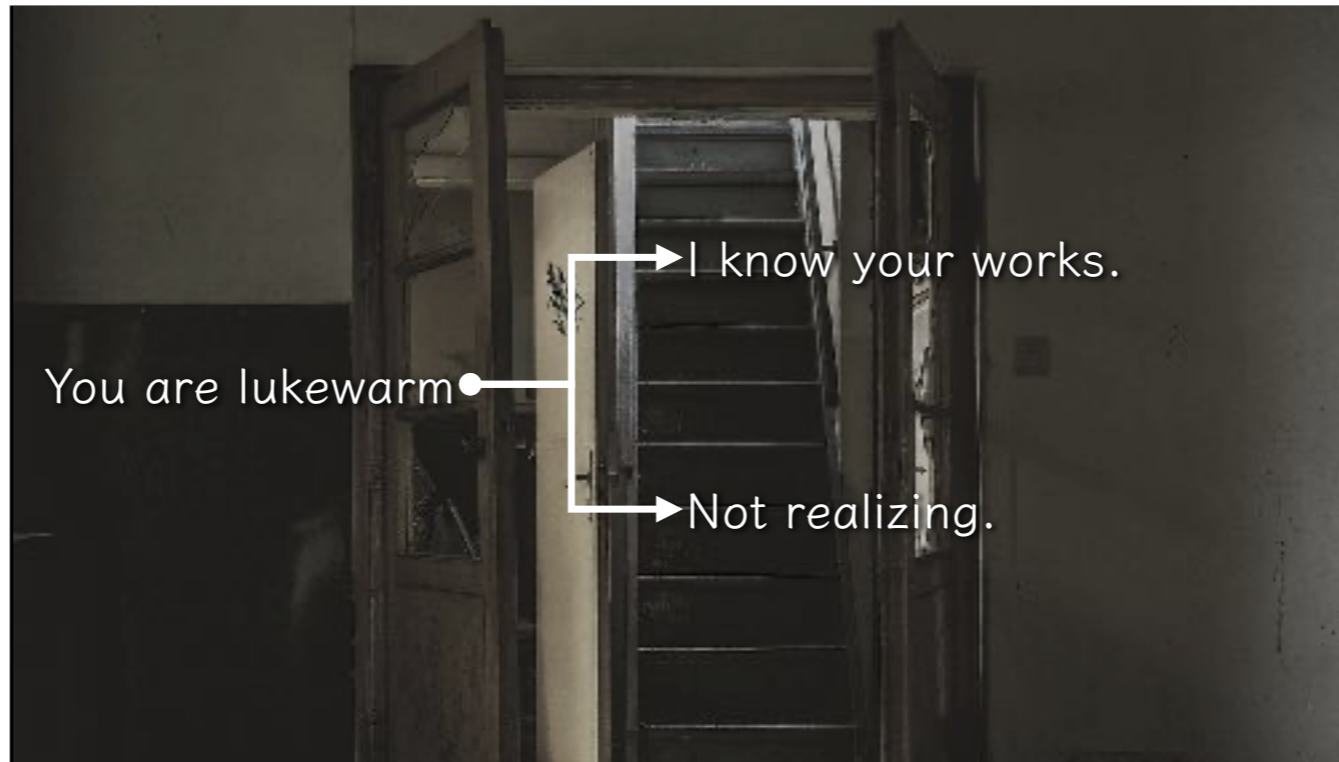
- I know your works
 - In previous letters, Jesus has praised the works of the saints
 - In Ephesus (2.2-3): toil, patient endurance, cannot bear evil, tested false apostles, bearing up, not grown weary
 - In Thyatira (2.19): love, faith, service, patient endurance, latter works exceed first
 - In Philadephia (3.8): Open door, little power, kept my word, not denied my name



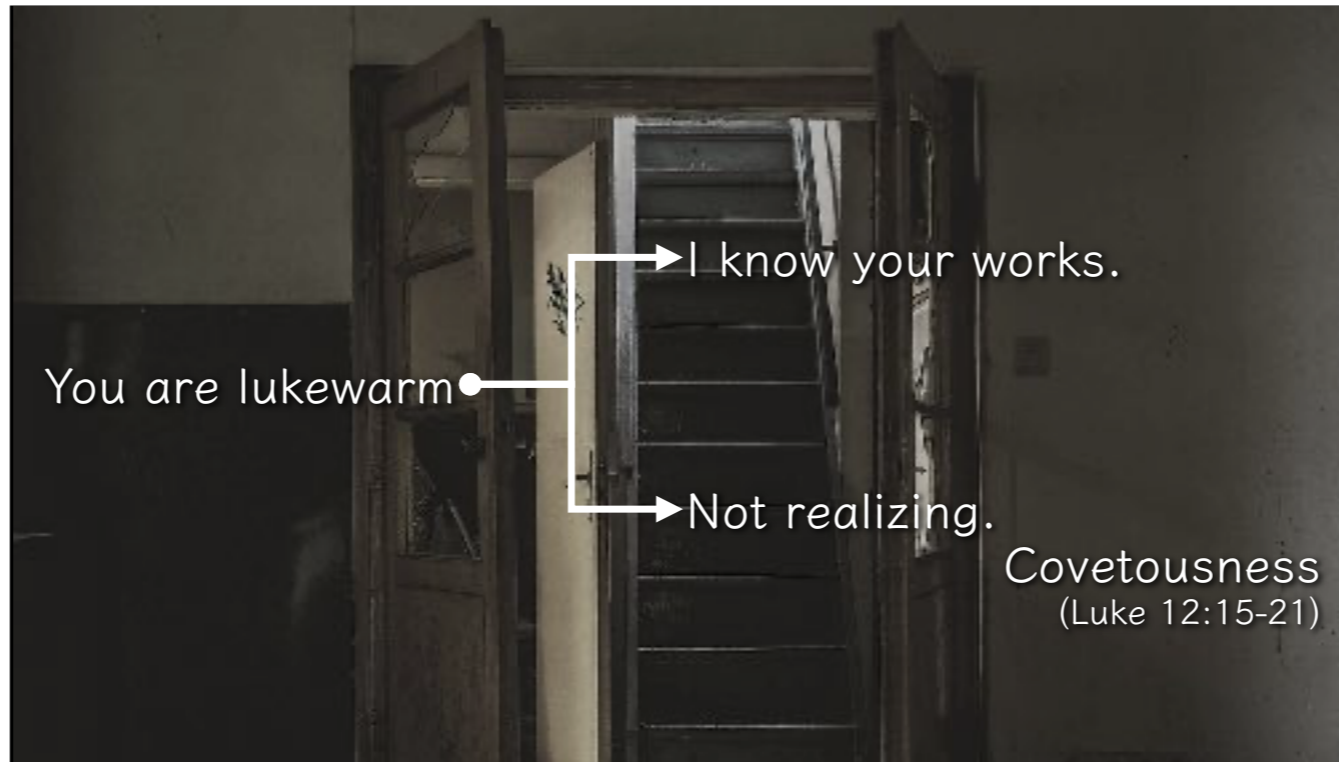
- But here ... nothing specific mention
 - What are the implications
 - The Laodiceans probably considered themselves faithful, active, service
 - But Jesus knows precisely their situation
 - It's not what what they are doing ... but about the condition of their hearts
 - How they saw themselves
 - How they saw their relationship with Jesus.



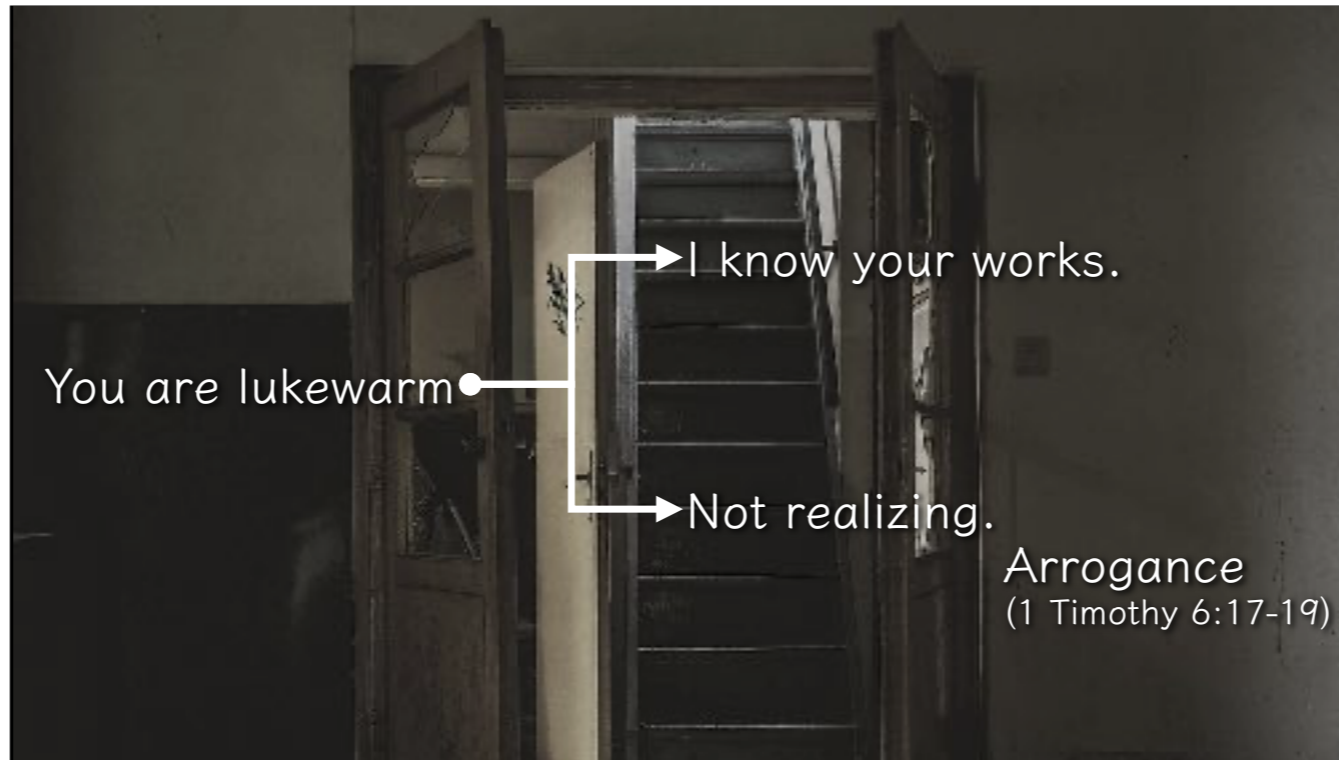
- Revelation 3:17 (ESV) 17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.
- Self-deception of the saints on full display
 - How could they have been so completely, and obviously, wrong?
 - Oblivious to their situation.
 - Focus, emphasis and values were distorted: materialism, self-righteousness, reputation



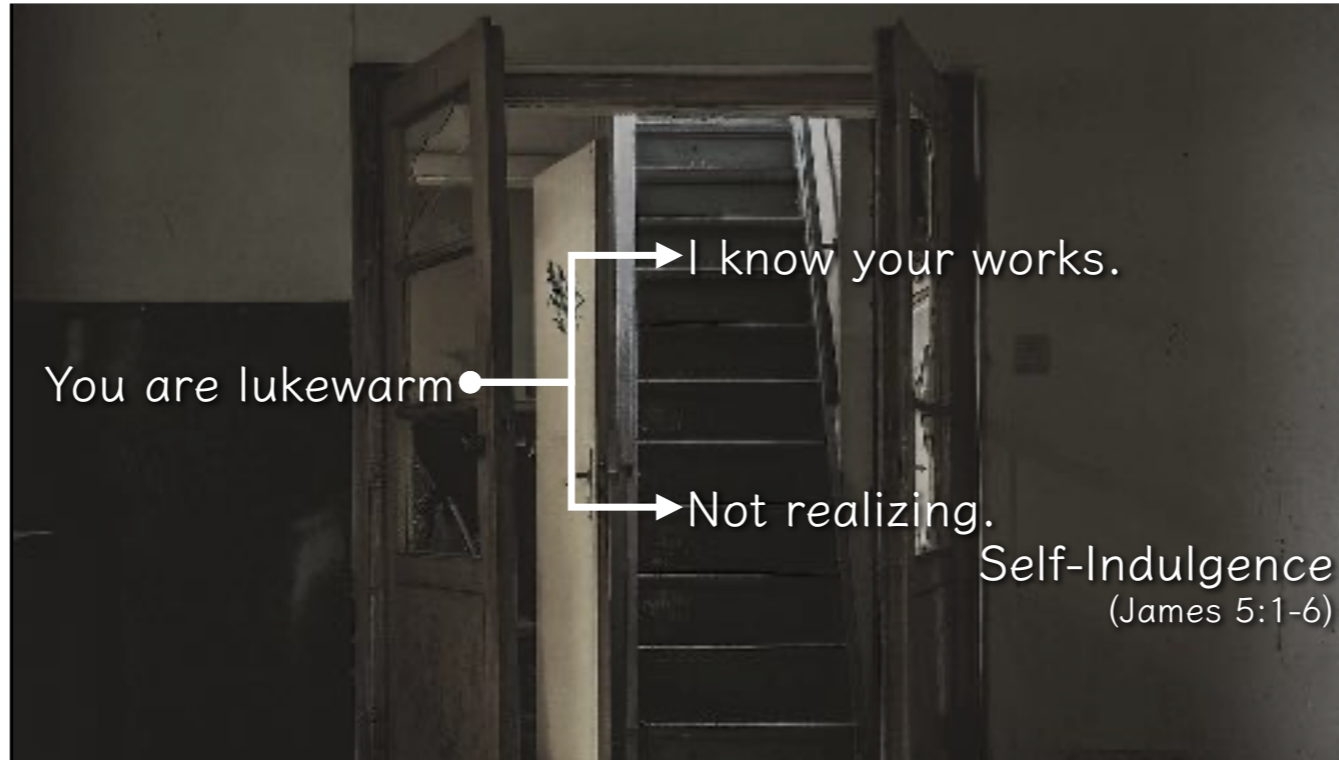
- Need to consider, for we are liable to the same mistake
 - Especially since we are rich (materially)



- Covetousness: Lk. 12:15-21
 - 15: "one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions"
 - Parable of Rich fool
 - 21: "So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

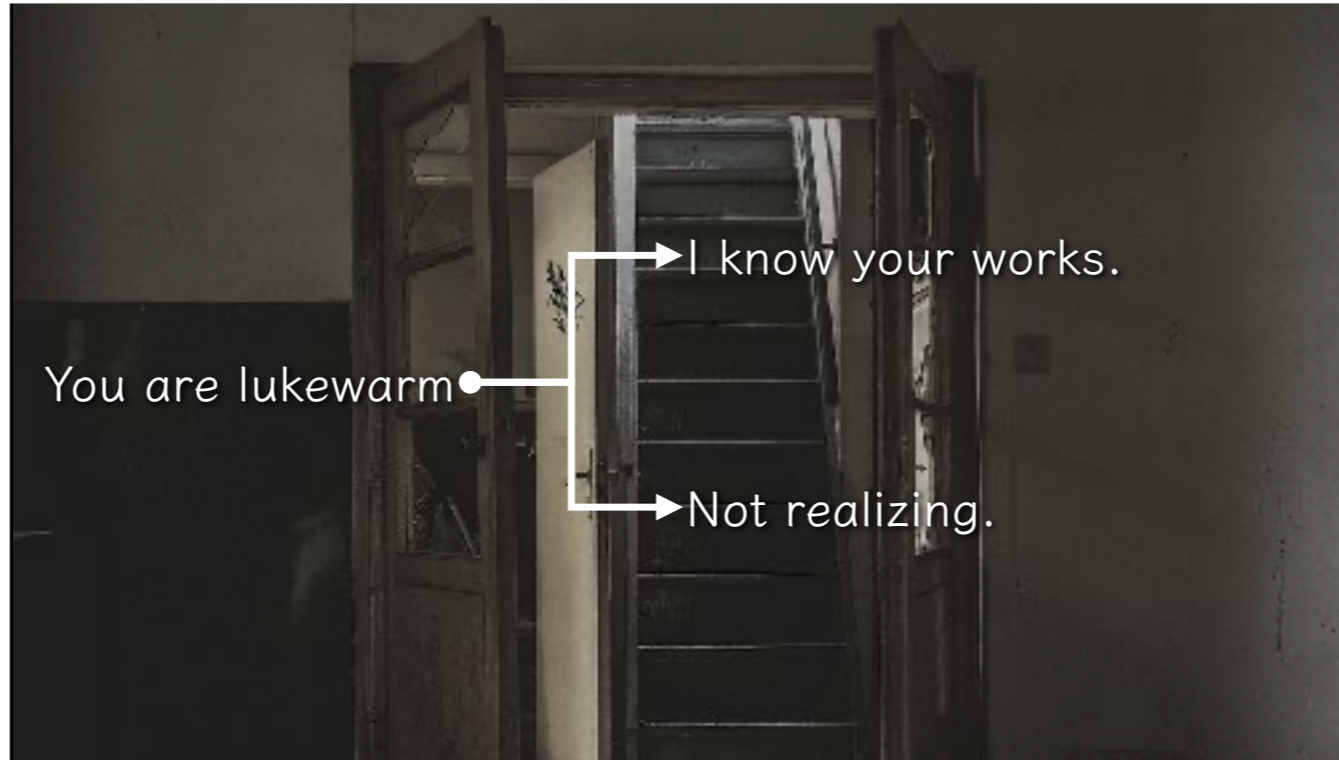


- Arrogance: 1 Timothy 6:17-19
 - “set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches”
 - “on God ... richly provides us with everything thing”
 - Self-sufficiency



• Self-Indulgence: James 5:1-6

- 2: riches: rotted, moth-eaten, corroded
- 4: defraud laborers (not pay wages)
- 5: lived on earth in luxury, self-indulgence, fattened your hearts



- Revelation 3:16: So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.
- Spit / spew out of mouth
 - disgust
 - rejection of any claim to a relationship
- Introspection: How's your spiritual health?



- Jesus' Solution for Our Complacency
 - We must not continue as we are ... path of death
 - We can do better, Jesus wants to help us.
 - In fact, this passage reminds us that the path to recovery begins with Jesus himself



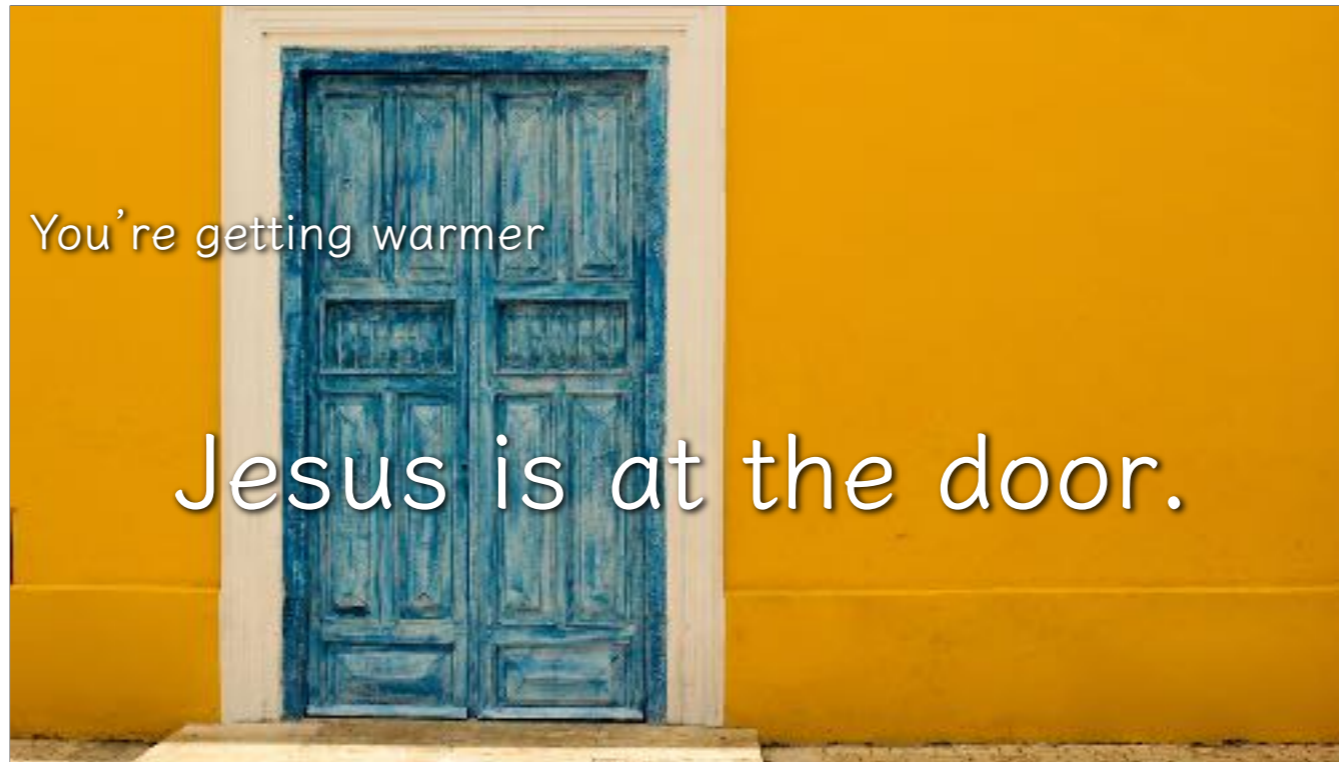
- Jesus loves you.
- Revelation 3:19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.
 - Ephesians 3:18-19 (ESV) 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.



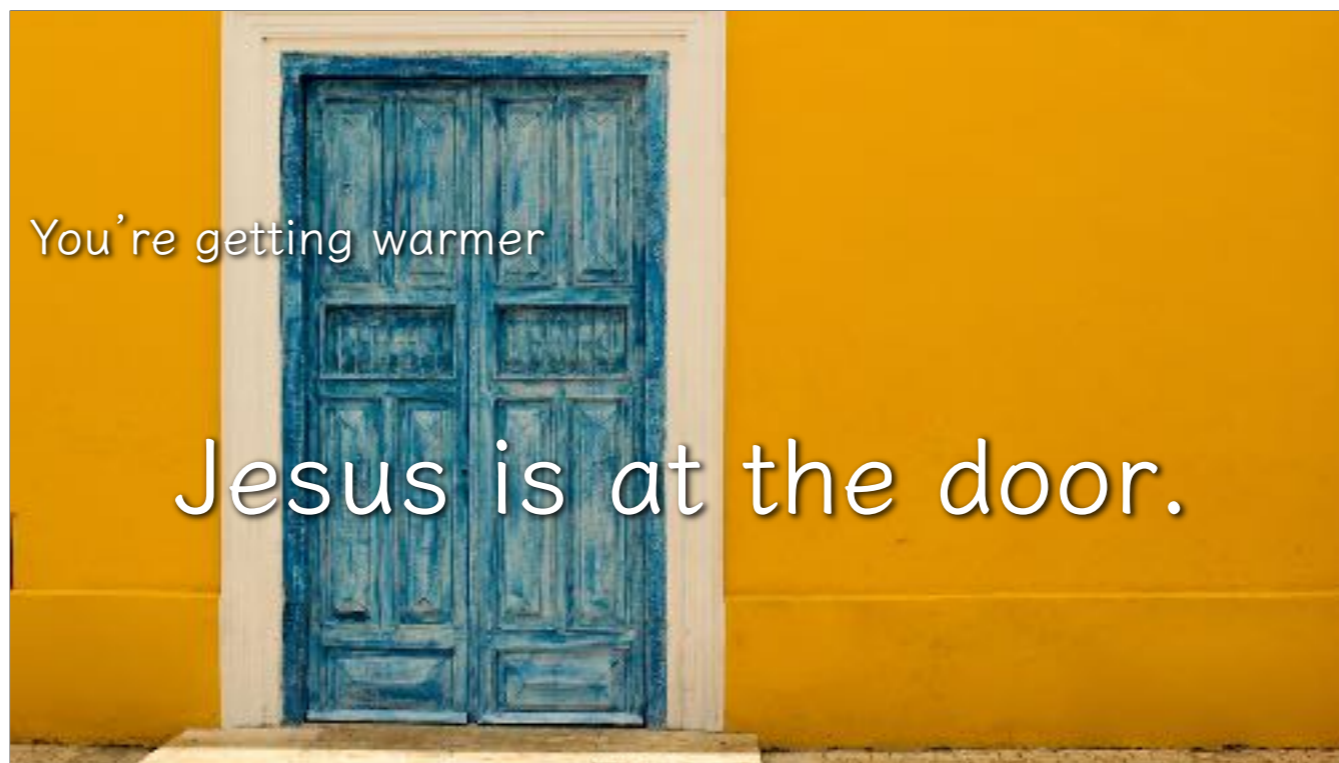
- Romans 8:37-39 (ESV) 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.



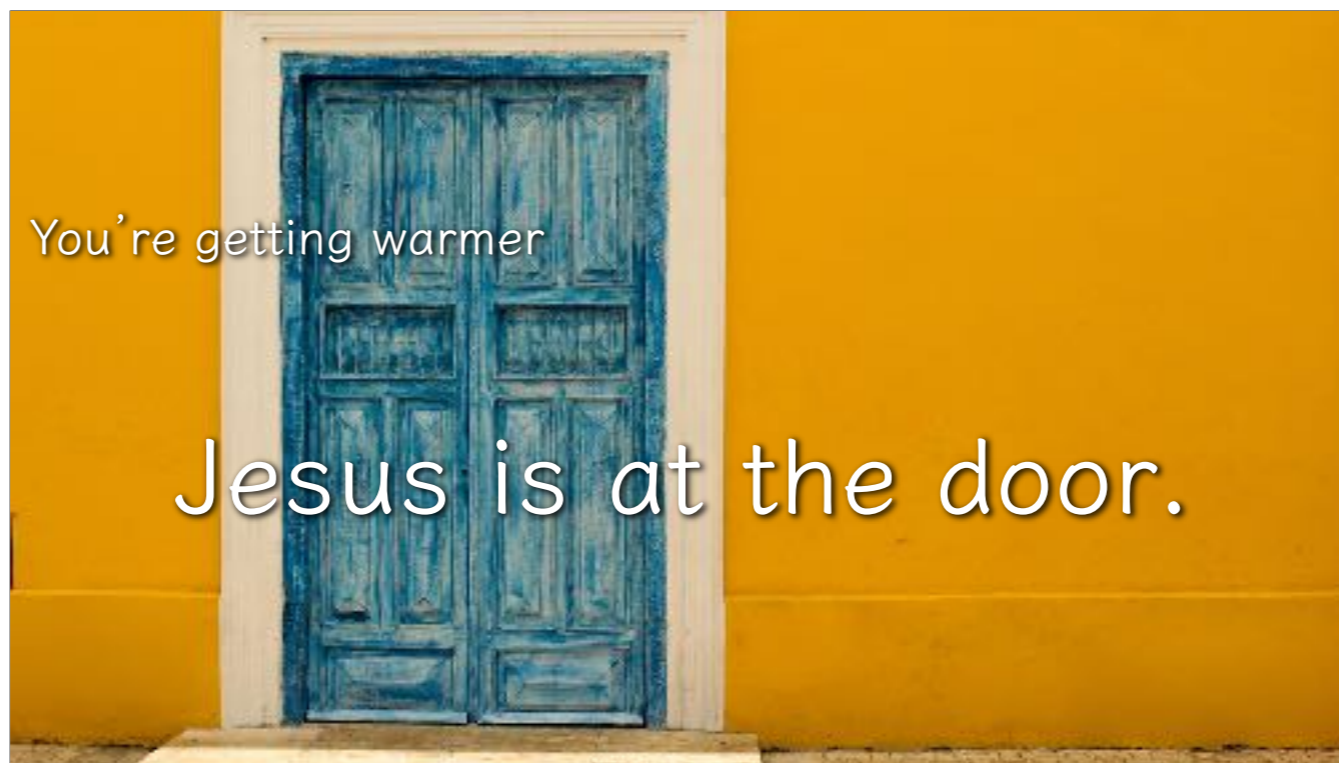
- Loves us
 - Not just when we are being perfect
 - Even in our struggles: physical, emotional, spiritual
 - Jesus doesn't just love those who are doing well: otherwise would never have come to save us.
 - Give him some credit that he can love us: it "surpasses knowledge"



- Jesus is at the door.
- Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.



- Luke 12:35-38 (ESV) 35 “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, 36 and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. 38 If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!



- Just as Jesus left the riches of heaven and came to earth to save us, so he comes to help us in our times of need.
- Jesus is not far away, far removed from us and our problems.
- He is here, now, with the opportunity for things to get better
- Consider the one who is at the door:
 - Creator, Savior, Lord
 - Good Shepherd
 - 1 Peter 5:7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.



- Jesus wants to eat with you.
- Revelation 3:20 I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.
- Dining together is fellowship, relationship
 - 1 Corinthians 10:20-22 (ESV) 20 No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. 22 Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?



- Matthew 9:10-13 (ESV) 10 And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" 12 But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 Go and learn what this means: I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."



- With Jesus' assurance of his love, presence, and fellowship: what must I do?
- Four things mentioned to the Laodicians



- Be zealous and repent.
- Revelation 3:19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.
- Our Shepherd gives us reason to turn back to him
 - 1 Peter 2:25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.
 - Why would we be zealous to repent?



- Hebrews 12:5-11

- And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?
- “My son, **do not regard lightly** the discipline of the Lord, **nor be weary** when reproved by him.
- 6 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” 7 It is for discipline that you have to **endure**.



- God is treating you as sons.
 - For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8 If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. 9 Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them.
- Shall we not much more be **subject to the Father of spirits and live?**



- 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them,
- but he disciplines us **for our good, that we may share his holiness.**
- 11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of **righteousness** to those who have been **trained** by it.
- Make the changes you need to make.



- Open the Door!
- Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.
- Hears my voice ... Are you listening for Jesus in your life?
 - John 10:3-4 (ESV) 3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.



- Let Jesus in your life!
 - Not just as a visitor ...
 - John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
 - Home, Work, School, Church, Community
 - Deuteronomy 6:7 (ESV) 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



- Buy from Jesus

- Revelation 3:18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.



- How buy when they are poor? (certainly not as long as they think “I need nothing!”)
 - Isaiah 55:1-3 (ESV) 1 “Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. 3 Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.



- Gold; Garments; Salve: Salvation — faith, righteousness, knowledge
 - It's not about me, earning, deserving, worthy
 - It's about Jesus: trust, grace



- Eat with Jesus
 - Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.
- Close fellowship between Jesus and me.
 - Will you come to the feast?



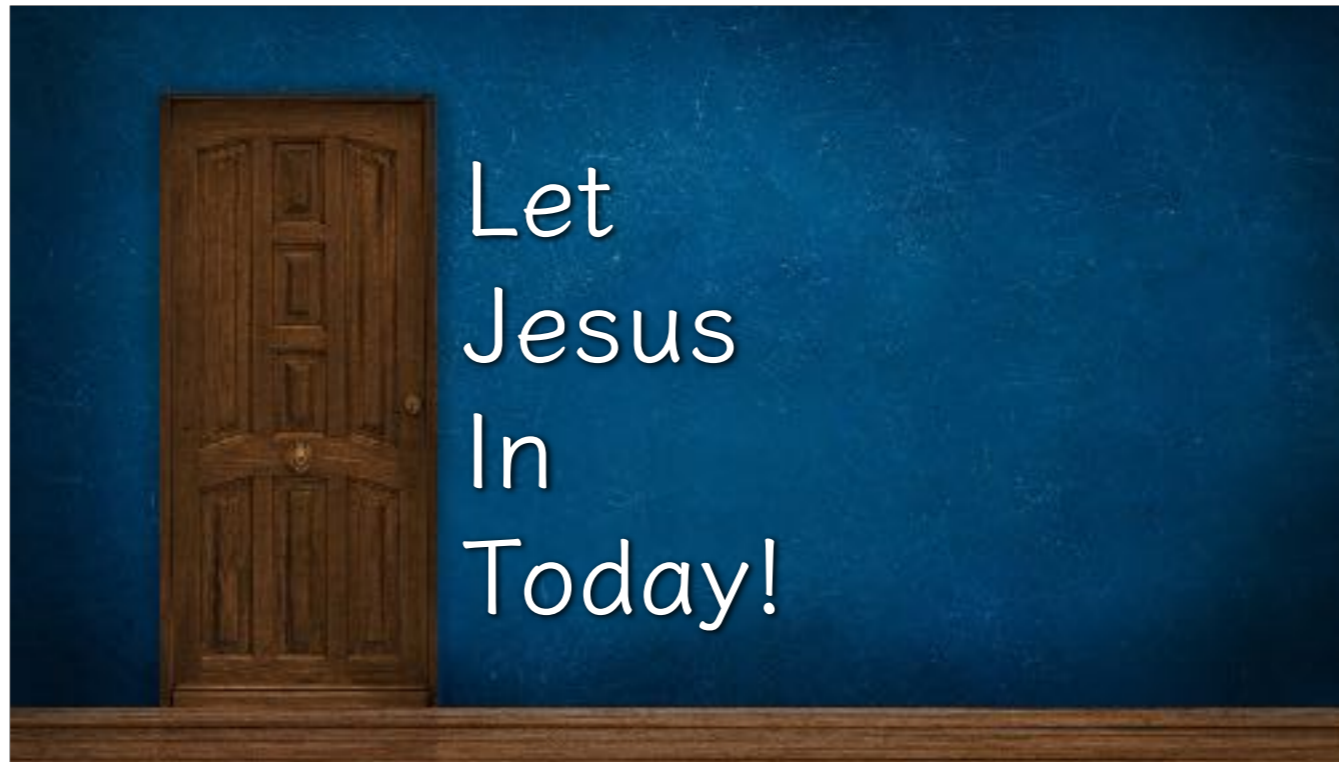
- How are you doing spiritually?
 - Cold — Lukewarm — Hot?
 - How do I know? How do I measure my spiritual health?
 - Beware of making false comparisons with others, of thinking it's about quantity (long prayers, much repetition)



- Pulse, BP, HR, etc. for physical health.
- What standards for spiritual?
 - It's not so much about numbers ... it's about relationship
 - More like asking about the health of your marriage or family relationships
 - Communication
 - Time
 - Commitment
 - Trust



- Am I growing closer to Jesus? (not daily ... more on average)
- Do I trust him more (esp. in difficult times)?
- Am I deceiving myself?
 - Am I complacent? arrogant? underestimating my value?



- Let Jesus in today
 - The best way for you to grow spiritually.
 - Not an automatic, magical cure-all.
 - Revitalizing a neglected relationship.

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

2 Corinthians 5:20

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I Stand at the Door

Revelation 3:14-22

Synopsis: The saints in Laodacia were complacent. In His letter to them, Jesus provides solutions for their lukewarmness. It begins with remembering Jesus' efforts for us: He loves us, he's at the door and wants to eat with us. We must repent, open the door, buy from Him and eat with him. This passage urges us to look at our spiritual health and revitalize our relationship with the Shepherd of our souls.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”