

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

Laodicea: Growing In Passion

“So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.”
—Revelation 3:16

This is a powerful image that carries with it a stark warning that we shouldn’t ignore. **Revelation 3:16** reveals to us the purpose that God has for his followers and challenges us to not be lukewarm Christians.

I think this passage is one that is much needed in the church today. Many have fallen away from the calling that God has given them thus becoming lukewarm. This verse will help us see how we can get back on track.

In the first few chapters of Revelation, John (the author) records a message from God to seven churches. These are real churches that existed in John’s day, however, the messages are not exclusive to these churches. They stand as representations of all churches.

In **Revelation 3:14-22** we see John addressing the Laodicean church. This church was struggling; they had largely abandoned their faith and were relying on their own strength to get by.

This church was positioned in a heavily resourced area. As a result they lived comfortable lives and were prideful in their ability to provide for themselves. So much so that when an earthquake destroyed their city in 60 AD they refused help from the Roman Empire and insisted on paying for the rebuild themselves.

This attitude of self-sufficiency spilled over into the church. They thought they could do it all themselves, and they neglected to rely on God. **Revelation 3:16** is a harsh, but spurred from love, reminder where God points out their weakness and tells them this attitude has made them useless.

It’s important to understand this isn’t a salvation issue but a usefulness issue. This church has abandoned its mission and had become ineffective, useless, and lukewarm.

This passage is about how we as believers can become lukewarm and feel like we are self-sufficient. In doing so we push Jesus out and compromise our God-given calling in life. That’s what the church in Laodicea had done, and what many Christians today do as well.

Resource: Rethinkknow.org

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Joshua & Carol Ngunta | Mali



- PRAISE**
- Praise God for the great start we have received for a new school in Bamako, we already have \$80,000 of the \$270,000 needed.
 - Praise God for the metamorphosis of the children, who are receiving an education but are also creating a brighter future.
- PRAY**
- Pray for a new project to secure a fully furnished, functioning, and Christ-centered school in Bamako, the capital city, for students from kindergarten to 9th grade.
 - Pray for the people of Mali and for souls to be saved.

KEY VERSE

Revelation 3:16 (NKJV)

“So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Revelation 3:16; Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

1. In paragraphs 4-6 on pg. 1 we learn about the “attitude” of Laodicea and it’s people. Why did this “attitude” cause them to fall away from God?
2. What advise do YOU take from the last paragraph on pg. 1? What is it telling us to beware of in terms of compromising our true calling in life?

Tuesday: Rev. 3:14-15; John 5:24; John 14:6; II Tim. 2:13

Know Jesus! Who Is He?

3. Revelation 3:14 first introduces Jesus as “*the Amen.*” What else do we learn from this verse as to “who” Jesus is to us as believers?
4. What gift does our Lord and our Lord “only” have to give us according to John 5:24 and 14:6? Is there any other way but “*through Him*” to receive it?

Wednesday: Rev. 3:17; Mat. 6:24; Luke 9:23; John 15:5

Understand The Reasons For Lukewarmness

5. How can wealth and success hinder us spiritually? (Rev. 3:17/Matt. 6:24)
6. Luke 9:23 states; “*if anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily.*” Are YOU carrying your cross every day?

Thursday: Romans 7:24; I Cor. 15:17,19; Gal. 4:9; Psalm 139:3,4

Recognize The Symptoms Of Lukewarmness

7. What is Romans 7:24 telling us about our sinful nature? Have you ever identified with the statement “*Wretched man that I am*”?
8. “*If only for this life we have hope in Christ*”(1 Corinthians 15:19). How can we avoid becoming lukewarm by holding on to Jesus?
9. Galatians 4:9 challenges us as believers in that many of us, knowing Christ still turn to sin? What actions can we take to replace these indulgences?

Friday: Rev. 3:20; Isaiah 55:1; Rom. 5:2; I Pet. 5:5-6; Rev. 3:18

Apply The Treatment For Lukewarmness

10. Romans 3:20 begins with “*Behold, I stand at the door and knock.*” How should we react to this verse? Is our Lord calling us to repent?
11. “*Through Him we have also obtained access by faith*” according to Romans 5:12. What according to this verse do we now have access to?
12. I Peter 5:5 says that we must “*clothe ourselves, all of us, with humility toward one another.*” What is our reward for this according to verse 6?