

"Can you hear Me?"

LETTERS FROM GOD

**God's Letter to
the Lifeless**
Message 5

Perry Duggar
February 23, 2020

► Outline

"Not everyone who calls out to Me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of My Father in heaven will enter."
Matthew 7:21 (NLT)

A. Introduction

(Ezekiel 33:31-32; Mark 7:6-7; Titus 1:16)

B. The Message to the Church in Sardis:

(Revelation 3:1-6)

1. _____:
**(Revelation 3:1a. C/R: Isaiah 11:2; John 16:13-14;
Revelation 1:4,20)**
2. _____:
**(Revelation 3:1b. C/R: Ephesians 2:1-2; Colossians 2:13; 1
Timothy 5:6)**

3. _____:
**(Revelation 3:2-3. C/R: Romans 13:11-14;
1 Timothy 6:20; Hebrews 10:29-30; 2 Peter 3:15-16)**
4. _____:
**(Revelation 3:3b. C/R: 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6;
2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 16:15)**
5. _____:
(Revelation 3:4. C/R: Revelation 6:11; 7:9,14; 19:6-9)
6. _____:
**(Revelation 3:5. C/R: Matthew 10:32; Philippians 4:3;
Revelation 13:8; 20:12,15)**
7. _____:
(Revelation 3:6)

Answers: 1. Greeting 2. Concern 3. Challenge 4. Consequences 5. Affirmation 6. Rewards 7. Closing
Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to discover more about God and develop a deeper relationship with Him. To get connected in a Small Group, visit brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups.

Conversation Starter

When do you feel most fully alive?

Opening in Prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Ask God to help you hear His voice during this week's study and reflection.

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [Revelation 3:1-6](#).

1. What concerns does Jesus have with the church in Sardis? Do you think God has concerns like this about you?
2. What are the marks of a dead (or dying) church?
3. Jesus gives five commands to the people in this church (vs. 2-3). List the commands and explain what obeying each command might involve.
4. What does Jesus say the consequences will be for those who don't return to God?
5. Looking back, can you identify a season in your life when you needed to *wake up* and *strengthen* your relationship with God? Describe your life during that time.
6. How do you keep your relationship with Jesus fresh and alive?

Soul Training

During this series through March 8, we'll focus on learning to hear God's voice using the pattern in the letters to the churches in [Revelation 2-3](#). Visit brookwoodchurch.org/hearingGod to discover what the Bible teaches about hearing God, view an outline of the letter we're seeking to receive from God, as well as additional resources to help you hear from God.

Spend a few minutes in silence, preparing your heart to hear from God.

So far we've asked God for a personal *greeting*, words of *affirmation*, specific *concerns* and His *challenge* for us. This week, we'll consider the negative consequences of not responding to His challenge. God desires the best for us, but to experience the life He has for us, we need to develop the habit of listening and obeying.

Begin a sentence with,

If you don't change these things, the result will be _____.

Ask God to reveal what will occur if you fail to respond to His challenge by making changes.

Memory Verse

"Not everyone who calls out to Me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of My Father in heaven will enter."

[Matthew 7:21 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [Ezekiel 33:30-33](#)

Day 4: [Romans 13:8-14](#)

Day 2: [John 16:5-15](#)

Day 5: [1 Thessalonians 5:1-8](#)

Day 3: [Ephesians 2:1-10](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, March 1, we'll continue our series by looking at a church who remained faithful. May God use this letter to the church in Philadelphia to help us remain loyal and true as well. To prepare, read [Revelation 3:7-13](#).



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