

# "Can you hear Me?"

LETTERS FROM GOD

## God's Letter to the Waning Message 1

Perry Duggar  
January 19, 2020

### ► Outline

*"Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what He is saying to the churches. ..."* **Revelation 2:7 (NLT)**

#### A. Introduction

(Revelation 1:1-4,9-20)

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: AD \_\_\_\_\_ or AD \_\_\_\_\_

Where written: \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. The Message to the Church in Ephesus:

(Revelation 2:1-7)

1. \_\_\_\_\_:  
(Revelation 2:1)

2. \_\_\_\_\_:  
(Revelation 2:2-3,6. C/R: Matthew 7:15; Romans 8:18;  
2 Corinthians 4:8-10; 2 John 10)

3. \_\_\_\_\_:  
(Revelation 2:4-5a. C/R: John 13:34-35;  
Ephesians 1:15-16; 1 John 4:7-8; 5:1)

4. \_\_\_\_\_:  
(Revelation 2:5b. C/R: Proverbs 28:13; Acts 3:19;  
James 4:8-10; 1 John 1:8-9)

5. \_\_\_\_\_:  
(Revelation 2:7. C/R: Genesis 2:9; 3:22; Luke 23:43;  
Revelation 22:2,14)

**Answers:** A. John, 68, 96, Patmos B. 1. Greeting 2. Affirmation 3. Challenge 4. Consequences  
5. Rewards

**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](http://brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups).

#### Conversation Starter

If you were to describe an ideal church, not the building, but the people, what adjectives would you use?

#### Opening in Prayer

Pause for a moment of quiet. Ask God to help you hear His voice during this week's study and reflection.

#### Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [Revelation 2:1-7](#).

1. The Ephesian church was full of hard-working, dedicated followers of Christ, but as Jesus looked deeper, what's one major concern He had about them?
2. Why are sound doctrine *and* love both important for the church? How can our church grow in both of these areas?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says *I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches*?
4. What do you think Jesus is really pleased about at Brookwood?
5. What steps can you take to keep the fire of devotion and love for Jesus from fading over time? Write down specific steps from this passage and share what you're learning in your group or with a friend.

### Soul Training

Soul Training is a spiritual practice designed to help you cultivate a deeper relationship with God. During this series, our focus is on learning to hear God's voice.

In [Revelation 2-3](#), God wrote letters to seven different churches. Using the general pattern contained in those letters, we're inviting you to ask God to write you a letter. Each week, you'll consider one part of the letter, then add to it the following week.

Visit [brookwoodchurch.org/hearingGod](http://brookwoodchurch.org/hearingGod) to discover what the Bible teaches about hearing God, and view an outline of the letter we're seeking to receive from God.

Begin with some quiet time, alone with God. Praise Him, acknowledge His power and greatness. Confess anything you need to confess. Do what you usually do to connect with God and open your heart to His Spirit.

Then, just like any letter, let's begin with a **GREETING**.

Write down your name or a phrase you sense God uses to address you.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ .

This is a personal letter to you. God knows you by name! Read Psalm 139, and spend some time praying that God would speak to you personally during this series.

#### Memory Verse

*Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.* [1 John 4:7-8 \(NLT\)](#)

#### Daily Reading

- Day 1: [Revelation 1:1-8](#)      Day 4: [Proverbs 28:12-16](#)  
Day 2: [Revelation 1:9-20](#)      Day 5: [Philippians 1:3-11](#)  
Day 3: [2 Corinthians 4:1-10](#)

#### Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, January 26, we'll continue our series by looking at the letter God wrote to those who suffer. To prepare, read the message to the church in Smyrna, [Revelation 2:8-11](#)



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