

Group/Individual Study

Series - Dear Church: Letter to the church of Sardis

REFLECT on the message heard on Sunday, 11/4

To Dead Christians

1. Has your faith ever been dead and yet come back to life? Why? What happened to kill it and then how was it brought back?
2. Is there now a gap between your reputation and your reality in some area of your life? Where?
3. It's interesting that Jesus doesn't mention any external or internal problems that the Sardis Christians were facing, unlike most of the other churches in *The Seven*. There's no mention of persecution or false doctrine or compromise or other suffering. How is a comfortable life sometimes a challenge to spiritual growth? Could this be a challenge in our culture?
4. How does Jesus advise the Sardis Christians to change? What do you think "strengthen what remains" means practically? How could this work in a relationship with a spouse or child?
5. Jesus tells them to "Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast..." He is telling them to remember the gospel they heard and received. Why is it important for us Christians to keep preaching the gospel to ourselves?
6. How do Jesus' words encourage you, particularly if you find yourself in a place where your faith is on life support?