

### **Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7)**

1. What were the strengths of the church in Ephesus?
2. What were the weaknesses of the church in Ephesus?
3. What do you think it means to "have forsaken your first love"? What did Max say it could mean? What might be the works they did at first?
4. How can we avoid the same spiritual decline as the church in Ephesus?

### **Thyatira (Revelation 2:20-29)**

1. What was the positive aspect of the church in Thyatira?
2. What was the negative aspect of the church in Thyatira?
3. What is the significance of the reference to Jezebel in Thyatira?
4. How can we avoid the spiritual dangers that plagued the church in Thyatira?

### **Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22)**

1. What was the lukewarm situation of the church in Laodicea?
2. Why does Jesus say, "Would that you were either cold or hot!" How did this relate to the geographic setting of the church?
3. Why did Max say that the problem of the church was probably not half-heartedness but self-deception?
4. How can we avoid the spiritual self-deception of the church in Laodicea?

### **General Discussion Questions**

1. What is the main pastoral concern expressed in these letters?
2. What common themes or warnings can be found in these three letters?
3. How can these letters be applied to the Church today?
4. What lessons can we learn from the experiences of these early Christian churches?
5. How can we avoid the pitfalls that led to the decline of these churches?