

MESSAGE APPLICATION GUIDE

Pastor Jeff Bucknam



Ephesians 5:7-14

APPLICATION

1. Pastor Jeff opens with an illustration of a man in the doorway with one foot in, and one foot out. It was difficult to determine if this man was committed to being present in the room, or out of the room. In other words, is he "in" or "out"? This is to illustrate what Jesus says about believers in Revelation 3:15, "I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth".

With this point in the message, according to Revelation 3:15, what does being "lukewarm" look like in a believer's life? After answering this question, would you consider yourself lukewarm? If you have difficulty answering this question truthfully, take time to discuss with your small group to help you. If you determine that you are lukewarm, ask your small group to help with next steps.

2. Pastor Jeff noted that 45% of Americans claim to have responded to an "alter call" at one point in their lives. Statistically speaking, we are aware that not all 45% were genuine conversions. If your response to the gospel was genuine, how has this made a difference in your life?

3. Verse 7 states that we are not to partner with those who are practicing things such as: sexual immorality, impurity, covetousness, filthiness, and crude joking. Is there anyone in your life that are practicing these things? If so, are you partnering with them? If not, what are you called to do with those in the dark (see vv. 11-14)?

4. Pastor Jeff encouraged us with the truth that, "you once walked in darkness but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light..." (v. 8-9). In light of those verses, you are no longer a slave to sin. In other words, sin is no longer your master. You can now say, "no" to its commands. Therefore, you now have a new master in Christ! Do you find yourself going back to your old master and obeying/submitting to what "he" wants you to do? If so, share with your small group what those things are. How will you now respond to your old master?
