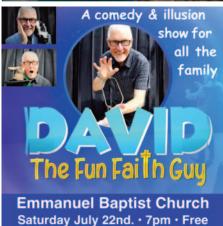
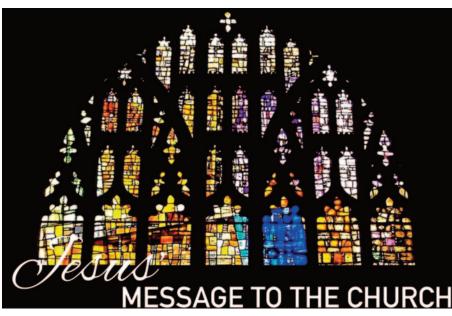
Study Continued

- 9. Read Revelation 2:6. It is thought that the Nicolaitans were people who followed the teachings of one of the early church deacons, Nicolas from Antioch (Acts 6:5). According to some early Church fathers, he led the church astray by teaching them to lead lives of "unrestrained indulgence." Jesus commended the church for their stand against his teachings. It seems that the Nicolaitans are still with us! How can we stand against the unrestrained lifestyles in today's world and yet still show the love of God to them at the same time?
- 10. What is Jesus referring to in verse 7. What needs to happen for us to 'overcome,' and return to our 'first love?' What will be our reward?









"Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

The 7 Churches of Revelation

- 1. Ephesus Remember your first love
- 2. Smyrna Be fearless and faithful
- 3. Pergamum Don't compromise
- 4. Thyatira Hold on to the truth
- 5. Sardis Be obedient to the Word
- 6. Philadelphia A open door for the faithful church
- 7. Laodicea Let Jesus in and be on fire for God

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To the church in Ephesus - Revelation 2:1-7

What happens when all we can see is ourselves?

JESUS HAS HOLD OF YOUR LIFE v.1 Stars:
Lampstands:
HARD WORK, GOOD DEEDS & STRONG DOCTRINE, BUT
Ephesus:
Reputation (v.2-3,6):
v.4 Yet I hold this against you: You have your first love.
NEED TO FALL IN LOVE AGAIN v.5
1
2 Ephesians 3:17-20
3
John 13:34 By this will all men know that you are my disciple, that you
Matthew 22:37-39
v.7 He who has an ear

- 1. Read Revelation Chapter 1. The apostle John was exiled on the island of Patmos during the reign of Roman emperor, Domition, for preaching the Gospel. It was there, in around 95AD, that John had a vision of Jesus. When you read this chapter, what is the image you get of Jesus?
- 2. Read Revelation 2:1. What are the seven stars and lampstands?

What is the significance of the stars being held tightly in Jesus' hand, and that He is walking among the lampstands?

- 3. Read Revelation 2:2-4. How would you describe the church in Ephesus?
- 4. What do you think it means that they had, 'forsaken their first love?'
- 5. The Church in Ephesus was obviously very strong on dealing with sin, strong doctrine, and hard work. Why isn't this enough? (Also read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3).
- 6. Read Revelation 2:5. Jesus tells the church three things that they must do. What are they? Explain the significance of each one.
- 7. Read John 13:34-35; Matthew 22:37-39; 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. What does it mean to love God and love people? How do these verses tie in to what we know about the church in Ephesus?
- 9. Jesus said that if they don't repent, He would come and remove their lampstand from it's place. What does this mean?

Why would Jesus do this?

8. How would Jesus describe your relationship with Him? Do you need to "Remember, Repent and Do..." in order to restore your relationship with Jesus?