

## Dear Future Church - Thyatira

*Scripture & Background Info for the week of March 2nd.*

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

### ***Revelation 2:18-29 Context***

In Revelation 2:18-29, the church in Thyatira is addressed, noted for its commendable qualities such as love, faith, service, and patience, indicating a community with a growing spiritual maturity and commitment to Christian values. However, this commendation is juxtaposed with a serious critique against their tolerance of a figure referred to as "Jezebel," who is accused of leading members of the church into practices of idolatry and sexual immorality, reminiscent of the Old Testament figure known for leading Israel astray. This critique highlights the challenges faced by the early Christian communities in navigating their faith within a pagan society, emphasizing the necessity of discernment and moral integrity.

The passage underscores the tension between the church's positive internal developments and the external pressures to conform to the surrounding culture's practices, which are at odds with Christian teachings. This situation in Thyatira, with its implications for personal and communal integrity, serves as a poignant example for discussion on how believers today can navigate the fine line between engaging with the world and upholding the teachings of Christ, emphasizing the importance of steadfastness and the promise of divine reward for those who overcome.

### *Questions for Discussion*

What are the commendable qualities of the Thyatira church, and how can we emulate these in our personal lives and church community?

In what ways do modern Christians face pressures to compromise their faith for social or economic benefits?

How does the passage challenge us to examine our own tolerance of sin or false teachings within our communities?

Share personal experiences or observations where perseverance in faith has been particularly challenging or rewarding.