

## Dear Future Church - Laodicea

*Scripture & Background Info for the week of March 24th.*

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 3:14-22 Context***

Laodicea, the last of the seven churches, was about 90 miles east of Ephesus. It was a wealthy town that specialized in banking, producing black woolen cloth, and health care, particularly eye products. Several decades before it had suffered an earthquake, but rebuilt due to the wealth of its citizens. The challenges of the city's culture had pervaded the church.

### ***Summary of the Message to Laodicea.***

Jesus Christ sent this letter to shake the Laodicean Christians out of their self-sufficient complacency and to exhort them to self-sacrifice for higher spiritual goals (Constable).

### ***Questions for Discussion***

- How does the message to the church of Laodicea in Revelation 3:14-22 serve as a warning to believers about the dangers of spiritual complacency and materialism?
- How does the image of Jesus standing at the door and knocking both challenge our perception of God's presence and encourage our hearts about His involvement in our lives?
- As you think about ways to fight against complacency and exercise moments of dependence upon the Lord on a daily basis, what are ways you could do that beginning this week?
- When you reflect upon this series as a whole, what's your big takeaway from Jesus' message to the churches in Revelation 2-3. How does it challenge your walk with Him? What areas do you want to work on, places you need to grow?