

THIS IS YOUR
Captain
SPEAKING



Touching Lives
with James Merritt

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Series Summary

Over the course of this seven-week series called, “This Is Your Captain Speaking,” we are going to be studying seven letters that the Apostle John wrote to seven churches in Asia. They are found in the second and third chapters of the Book of Revelation. Now, John was not actually the author of the letters; he just wrote them. These were given to him by the risen Lord Jesus. The letters are a result of an on-site inspection Jesus himself conducted. We’re going to learn a lot throughout this series about how we can learn from Jesus’ evaluation of the seven churches in Revelation. So fasten your seatbelts as we take off on this journey together.

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Ephesus: You've Lost That Loving Feeling

This Is Your Captain Speaking | Week 1 | Revelation 2:1-7

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What is something you are doing in your life right now that you think Jesus would be proud of and commend you for?
2. Have you ever focused more on what you were doing for Jesus than how you were loving Jesus? What was that season of life like for you?
3. What is one practical step you can take this week to “remember your first love” and go down memory lane in your relationship with Christ?

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Smyrna: Grace Under Pressure

This Is Your Captain Speaking | Week 2 | Revelation 2:8-11

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Before hearing today's message, would you have considered yourself a rich person? Why or why not? How has your perspective on your "richness" changed in light of this message?
2. When was a time you felt like your faith was being tested? What did you learn from that season of your life?
3. What are practical ways you can choose to be faithful rather than fearful this week?

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Pergamum: Dealing With The Devil

This Is Your Captain Speaking | Week 3 | Revelation 2:12-17

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Why do you think some people struggle to believe that Jesus is the only way to heaven?
2. Have you ever fallen into the temptation to compromise on your beliefs based on what somebody else said or did? What did you learn from that experience?
3. What are some practical steps you can take to make sure you don't compromise on your beliefs in the future?

Thyatira: Failing The Tolerance Test

This Is Your Captain Speaking | Week 4 | Revelation 2:18-29

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. How would you rate your biblical health right now? Strong or poor?
2. Has there ever been a time you've been tempted to compromise or denounce your beliefs for the sake of being tolerant? How did you respond to that temptation?
3. What is an example of someone you know who stood strong for the truth of God's Word even when it wasn't popular? What can you learn from this example?

Sardis: The Walking Dead

This Is Your Captain Speaking | Week 5 | Revelation 3:1-6

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Do you find it easy to ignore your spiritual reputation, or is that something you struggle with because of how you are concerned with what other people think of you?
2. Do you feel like you have a good grasp on the reality of your relationship with Christ? If so, explain that reality.
3. Which of the three steps Jesus gives in point #3 (remember, repent, and return) do you need to implement in your own life?

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Philadelphia: Like A Rock

This Is Your Captain Speaking | Week 6 | Revelation 3:7-13

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. When was a time God opened a door for you as a result of your faithfulness to Him? What can you learn from that experience?
2. How does knowing you have God-given authority over the enemy give you strength and comfort in light of any opposition you're currently facing?
3. Do you ever worry about your future? How does knowing Christ is coming back give you hope and peace about the future?

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Laodicea: Stuck In No Man's Land

This Is Your Captain Speaking | Week 7 | Revelation 3:14-22

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Have you ever been in a season of your faith where you were lukewarm?
What was that season like?
2. Do you struggle with being arrogant or ignorant when it comes to your faith?
If so, explain your answer.
3. How can you apply Jesus' counsel about lukewarmness to your own life to
either combat the currently present lukewarmness or to prevent
lukewarmness from seeping into your faith?
