

## You Asked For It Spiritual Indifference

Let's start this message out with a question. What do you think Jesus felt like when he left heaven and came to earth, and sacrificed everything for us? Shed his blood, died, kick some devil tail, gave us his living Word, provided access to the very throne room of God, charged us with a holy commission, gave us the same power that rose Christ from the dead and yet we go days without thinking about him. How do you think he feels about that? I tell you what, don't answer that question just yet.

Today we're going to talk about how do we undo spiritual indifference? Not in someone else's life but in our own lives. Jesus wrote 7 letters to 7 different churches in the book of Revelation. He wrote a letter to the church and Laodicea.

Laodicea was a very wealthy city known for its banking establishments, medical schools, and textile industry. It's weakness was a lack of adequate water supply. They build massive aqueducts from two different cities. One from Colossae which was known for its cold water. Cold water has a purpose, It's soothing and believe they have healing properties. The second city that piped down water to Laodicea was Hierapolis. This city was known for its hot springs. The problem with bringing in water from a long distance is it no longer is hot or cold. It was dirty and Luke warm.

Jesus wrote into this community and called them out on their spiritual indifference through a way that they would understand. **Revelation 3:15-16** *"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I am about to spit you out of my mouth."*

Jesus was saying you're spiritual Indifference doesn't just break my heart; it turns my stomach. Your lack of concern for what I have done for you makes me want to spit you out of my mouth.

I think there are two main causes of spiritual indifference and I want to point those out to you this morning.

- 1. The first is self-sufficiency.** Listen to what Jesus said in **Revelation 3:17** *"You say, I am Rich, I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing. But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."*

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Jesus saying you think you have all that you need but you're missing what matters the most. We have an attitude in America that I call the **"I'm good" attitude**. How are you doing? "I'm good." Can I offer any help? No "I'm good." How's your walk with Christ are you growing? "I'm good."

We have this attitude that, we have all we need but we're lacking the one thing that truly matters. Your life is full of stuff but empty of meaning. We forget that we are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. It's the illusion of self-sufficiency.

- 2. The second cause of spiritual indifference is distractions of this world.**

**Mark 4:13-19** *"Then Jesus said to them, don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on the Rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no*

***root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.***

This is yours and my story. We hear the word, we're changed, moved and stirred spiritually. Some fruit begins to grow and then Wham! Life happens. Kids get sick, car breaks down, a relationship ends, kids are going through a hard season in their life and on and on and life keeps happening and it chokes out the word in our lives. It isn't that we don't care, we just got distracted.

The problem in the church today is, there are some people who have just enough Jesus that it makes them feel somewhat good about themselves. Just enough of Jesus to make them feel good about eternity, just enough to give them a sense of comfort and security but not enough that it moves us to grieve over our own sinfulness and inspires us to follow Jesus and give him glory every single day!

So how do we know if we are living with this type of indifference? Here are some quick indicators:

**1. We're more concerned with impressing people than living for God.**

***Jesus said "Woe to you, when all men speak well of you."*** We are so consumed with making people like us.

**2. We're obsessed with life on earth rather than eternity.**

It has become all about what we can get now! Things become our focus! Scripture says, ***"If you love the world the love of the father is not in you."***

**3. We rationalize sin and live without fearing God.**

In our culture we rename sin so it doesn't sound so bad. It's not adultery, it's an affair. It's not porn, it's adult entertainment. We tell ourselves it's not that bad and I'm not as bad as everybody else.

**4. We only turn to God when we need him.**

Rather than seeking him daily, we seek him when it benefits us. He is just another tool in our toolbox, not a God we worship and Fear.

**5. We believe in Jesus but we rarely share our faith.**

**6. We're not much different from the world.**

We watch movies without any regard of how it will affect us spiritually. We listen to songs that desensitize our spirit. We do not guard what comes out of her mouth but we let it fly when we're upset and all of the sudden, without meaning to, we realize we have become spiritually indifferent. We can take it or leave it.

So what do we do to rekindle the spark again? I can give you a list of things you could do but this morning I'm only going to give you one. Are you ready?

**Every day, do something that requires faith.** That's it! James said ***"faith without works is dead."*** Faith brings life!

When we are living by faith we are living for what lasts. We care less what people think and we're living to please him! Instead of rationalizing sin we confess it before God.

Scripture says ***"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."***

Don't go one second without doing something each day that requires faith. For some of you that means forgiving someone when they don't deserve it. Asking someone else to forgive you knowing that it's not going to be well received. For some of you it will be sharing your faith with a coworker because you know the Holy Spirit has been leading you to do it for a long time or maybe It's praying out loud for the first time

in a small group setting. But whatever it is, do it! Do it and watch your relationship with Christ burn like fire again! Let today be the last day you live in spiritual indifference.