



### News to Know

- 1)** What an incredible weekend! Over 135 students came together to worship Jesus and grow in their faith—it was amazing to witness. I want to take a moment to thank each of you who served in some capacity. An event of this scale requires a dedicated and capable team, and you all stepped up in such an amazing way. I'm so grateful for your hard work, heart, and willingness to serve. Thank you for making this event a success!
- 2)** We'll meet for worship again on Wednesday night for Refuge at 6:30 in The Harbor.
- 3)** Our Sunday morning small groups will meet this Sunday at 9:45 and 11:00. We'd love to see your student involved in this excellent ministry.
- 4)** Now that DNow is over, it's time to really push the MissionFuge deadline. Deposits are due January 31. Our junior high students are headed to Mobile and can sign up [here](#). Our high school students are going to Philadelphia. There are no longer spots available, but you can sign up for the waitlist [here](#).
- 5)** Coming up...we'll have a Super Bowl Party at 5:25 on February 9 in The Harbor.

## **Refuge this Week**

For the next three weeks, in our Revelation Series, we're going to focus on the letters to the seven churches in Revelation 2-3. This week, we'll look at the first three letters. Each letter gives us challenges to apply to our lives.

First, the letter to Ephesus challenges us to not grow weary. Jesus encourages this church for serving well and working hard. Despite the culture around them, they endured and were faithful in the service to Christ. Then, Jesus offers a warning. He tells them that they have left their first love. They had everything but the greatest thing. Obedience out of duty had replaced obedience out of love for Christ. They looked good on the outside, but they did not love Christ in their hearts.

The second church was Smyrna. This was not a prestigious church. They were persecuted and poor. Yet, this is the only church that Jesus doesn't correct. He encourages them and tells them they are rich spiritually. Even though they are poor by worldly standards, they have Jesus, and that's all they need. He is enough. The same is true for us. If we have Jesus, we have all we need. We must make the commitment to "die up front." To choose to die to our sinfulness and follow Jesus no matter how hard it may be.

Third, we'll talk about the challenges from the letter to Pergamum. This church teaches us not to compromise. The church in Pergamum had allowed false teachers to influence them. The greatest dangers of the church are almost always on the inside. Satan was luring the church into believing that sin and compromise was ok. We must guard against compromise in our own lives.

## **Resource of the Week**

This week's resource is titled, "How to Teach Your Teen to Study the Bible." You can find it [here](#).



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