**Early Morning Bible Study January 19-March 2, 2022**

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 ***Overcoming: Jesus’ Challenge to His Church—7 Communities of Revelation Lesson 5***

 **Authenticity in Jesus—Sardis—Revelation 3:1-6**

 ***“The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life.” Revelation 3:5***

1. **Reputation versus Reality—3:1-2**
2. **Repentance and Revival—3:3**
3. **Relationship and Recognition—3:4-6**

**Questions for Conversation**

1. In Revelation 3:1, Jesus says He is the One who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. From chapter 1, verses 4 and 20, what are your thoughts about this description of Jesus for this particular church?
2. From the second half of verse 1 and from verse 2, what has happened in this church community and in the lives of many individuals in this church? Have you seen this in our time and place, and if so, why does this happen?
3. What did Jesus tell the church leader(s) and members to do, in verses 2 and 3? How exactly would this be worked out, then and now? How could they have the strength and ability to obey Jesus? (Read Romans 8:12-14.)
4. What was Jesus’ warning in verse 3, and what did He mean?
5. What is the encouragement or reward in the message to Sardis, and how do you understand the different elements of Jesus’ promise? How does this give you hope and joy right now?
6. Jesus closed with the repeated phrase, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” How would the members of the Sardis church be helped toward repentance and revival by Jesus’ messages to the churches of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum and Thyatira?
7. What warning or strengthening truth from the Lord Jesus’ message to Sardis will you apply to your life?

 **Next week: February 23—Philadelphia—Revelation 3:7-13**