



Jesus Speaks: Pt. 6; Sardis - When Pressure Rises

When the culture's influence begins to affect believers, what is the result? Some churches in the early days of Christianity experienced this. In Revelation 3, Jesus speaks directly to those churches warning them what would happen if they allowed the culture to speak over the truth of the Gospel. He also provided a way forward. Remember why you believe! He speaks the same to churches today.

Bottom Line: When the pressure rises, remember why you believe.

Discussion Questions:

1. What factors influence the reputation of a local church? What reputation do you think your church has?
2. What does being a Christian require?
3. **Read Revelation 3:1-2.** Jesus tells the church in Sardis that they are “dead” and that their works are not complete? Describe ways in which a church can become dead. What outside influences does a “dead” church succumb to?
4. When someone has a Biblical worldview they believe the Bible is entirely true and allow it to be the foundation of everything they say and do. How can a Christian strengthen their Biblical worldview?
5. When challenged by the culture, what must a Christian do in order to not compromise? Give an example of something that you’ve done when challenged.
6. Describe what it was like when you first gave your life to Christ.
7. **Read Revelation 3:3-5.** Jesus tells the church in Sardis to “remember” what they have heard and received. Then Jesus tells them to “keep it, and repent.” Why are these words of Jesus important? What’s at stake if they don’t?
8. What can you do to strengthen your Biblical worldview?
9. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
10. How can the group encourage you this week?

*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.