

Small Group Questions | August 9

Way Maker | To the Church in Pergamum

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Watch this message at <http://bayhills.net/media/sermon-videos>.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS

1. Describe a time when you felt your faith was directly opposed to culture. How did it make you feel? Was there a positive outcome? Negative?

OPEN IN PRAYER

FOCUS ON THE PASSAGE

2. **Read Revelation 2:12-17.** Describe some of the trials that the members of the church in Pergamum were likely encountering when John wrote these words.
3. Revelation is a book written to give Christians hope when all they see around them is destruction. What hope is evident in this passage?

ADMIT WHERE YOU ARE

4. If God were assessing us as a church, or you personally, in what area would He give affirmations? In what areas would he describe weaknesses to work on?
5. Where are the places that you find it hard to live out your faith in Jesus? Put another way, where is it intimidating to let people know that you are a follower of Jesus?

INTERPRET THE PASSAGE

6. Christians in Pergamum were living in a hard place. It was a place that made it really difficult to be a Christian. Does this sound familiar?

What similarities are there between the culture of Pergamum in this time and our own?

7. When you're living and working in a place like Pergamum, in which you are surrounded everyday by the temptation to just go with the flow, it can be tiring to be swimming upstream against the current of culture. Are there some practical ways that we are told will help us keep on swimming?

TAKE IT INTO YOUR LIFE

8. As you look at your life, are there areas in which you are not living according to God's Word? Where are you giving into the temptation of compromise?

HEAR FROM GOD

9. Are you discouraged by the gaps between what is and what should be in your own life? If so, hold on! Don't give up! Continue or start standing up for Jesus with boldness and conviction. Don't compromise. Continue to allow God's light to shine through you in the midst of a dark world, knowing that God will take care of you, and that He will continue to give you personal access to a deep and abiding intimacy with your Heavenly Father. Ask Him today to help you identify those areas in your life in which you need strength to continue making wise choices.

CLOSE IN PRAYER