

### **SERMON GUIDE:**

**September 10, 2023, Pastor Kylee Coon**

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- Can you remember back to when you first accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior? What was your faith characterized by? Is it different than your faith today? (if so in what ways?)
- Read and Discuss Revelation 2:1-4. What did you notice about the state of the church in this passage? What are the insights that are highlighted in this passage?
- Have you gone through, or are you in a time where you're focused more in the form of your faith (the works) rather than the substance of your faith (your love for Jesus)? What are the practical ways we can avoid, and/or overcome these times of misaligned focus?

### **SERMON NOTES**

Revelation 2:2-5 - <sup>2</sup>I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. <sup>3</sup>You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. <sup>4</sup>Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. <sup>5</sup>Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.”

Slow down, pause and remember your first love Jesus, and fall in love again and again.

What happens when we pursue the works of God above Him.

- Discontentment with the move of God that is happening in front of us.
- We love the things of God more than we love Him.
- Comfortable with being idle in our relationship with Jesus
- Dulled sensitivity to the Holy Spirit
- Distracted and vulnerable to sin

What happens when we pursue our first love?

- We are renewed each day, again and again for the good works God made us for.
- We will have a heart to reach the lost and we will see new believers come to Christ