



Building motivation and expectation for 2022 – Part 2

Summary and Conclusions from Revelation 2-3 (Seven letters to the seven churches)

1. Studying God's Word is _____ important now than it's ever been before.

- Hebrews 4:12 The Word of God is living and active, powerful, effective, insightful
2 Timothy 3:16 Scripture comes directly from God, and is useful for teaching, rebuking, Correcting, and training in righteousness (Also 2 Peter 1:20)
- Matthew 4:4 God's word is a life giving source for all of mankind
1 Peter 2:2 God's word is spiritual nourishment that helps you grow up spiritually (Also Hebrews 5:12-14)
- Acts 17:11 God's word is the truth by which all truth claims are judged

Also study Psalm 119: 11, 28, 74, 81, 105, 133, 162, 169, James 1:23-25, 1 Peter 1:23

- Applications:**
1. Be _____ in as many Bible Study groups as you legitimately can. (Church, Sunday School, Bible Studies, Small Groups, Podcasts, Devotionals, Quality Christian music, etc.)
 2. Read God's work like you are _____ to gain wisdom and understanding. Pay attention to key words, context, repetition, tone, purpose, type of writing, application, etc.

2. Never _____ your past, your present, or your future with Christ.

- Romans 6:17-18 You used to be slaves to sin, now you aligned with God through your obedience, you are free from sin and are now slaves to righteousness
- 1 Cor 6:7-11 We used to be sexually immoral, idolaters, thieves, greedy, drunkards, slanderers, swindlers – but now we are washed, sanctified, and justified by the Spirit of our God.
- 2 Cor 5:20 I am an ambassador of Christ, by whom God calls to the lost
- Matt 5:13-16 We are Salt of the earth, and the light of the world.

- Applications:** _____ as if you've been saved from the worst possible outcome ever, and then _____ the one who accomplished this salvation.

3. **Don't _____, even when it hard, painful, and confusing. The reward is so much greater than the pain and hardship.**

I John 4:3-5 The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.
I Peter 1:3-5 Our inheritance cannot perish, spoil, or fade.
 Christians are shielded through faith, by God power
John 14:2-3 Jesus is preparing a place in heaven specifically for us believers
Rev 22:12 Each person will be rewarded according to what they have done
Hebrews 11:6 God rewards those who earnestly seek him
Matthew 5:10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness
Romans 5:2-4 Suffering produces perseverance, character, and hope
Galatians 6:9 If we continue to do good, we will eventually reap a harvest
I Timothy 4:16 Persevere in living our your faith and doctrine, it will save both you
 and others.
Hebrews 10:36, James 1:12, Luke 16:10, revelation 2:20

- Application:**
1. View your relationship with God as a _____ project that you and He are working on together.
 2. View your role in God's greater plan, as _____ and _____ no matter how big or small, known or unknown.
 3. _____ God with your suffering, hardship, and persecution.

Big Picture Application:

1. A healthy, well rounded, content, joy filled Christian life includes:
 - a. As much _____ as you can reasonably take in while living your life for Christ.
 - b. _____ in the church, so that you gain support, friendships, prayer partners, wise council, opportunities to worship/give/minister/and be ministered to.
 - c. _____ on God's promises, principles, commands, and doctrines.
 - d. **Filtering all prospective truth** through the filter of God's inspired truth manual.
 - e. Making sure that your spiritual power and energy is being _____.
(nursery, Sunday School, fellowship committee, small group leader, usher, maintenance, Heritage Luncheons, WND, camps / retreats, community efforts)