

Encounter these verses today:
*circle words that you identify with,
 underline phrases or sentences you'd
 like to remember, write questions about
 the passage out to the side ...*



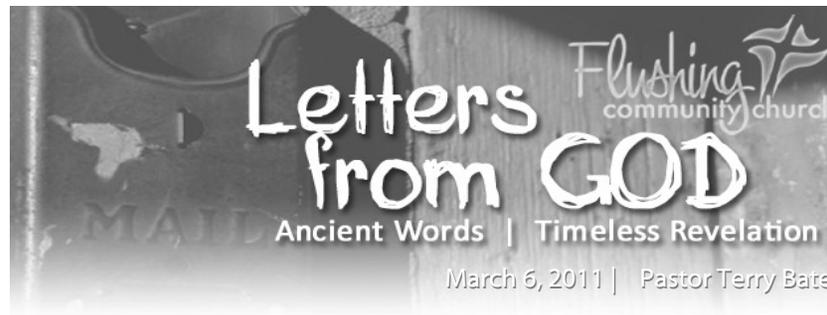
**Revelation 3:14-22 (NLT)
 To the Church in Laodicea**

¹⁴ "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Laodicea. This is the message from the one who is the Amen—the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's new creation:

¹⁵ "I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other! ¹⁶ But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth! ¹⁷ You say, 'I am rich. I have everything I want. I don't need a thing!' And you don't realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked. ¹⁸ So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see. ¹⁹ I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference.

²⁰ "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. ²¹ Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne.

²² "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches."



Interesting Facts about the city of Laodicea ...

What's so wrong about being "lukewarm"? (what was Jesus really saying to them?)

How did the culture of the community, influence Jesus' words to them?

Our response to Jesus' words today:

Am I _____ or _____ or _____?

Am I _____ or _____?

Am I clothed in _____ or naked?

Am I _____ to the truth of God or can I _____?

"All In" Pledges will be received beginning Sunday, March 13

What can you do to help us reach our goal of raising an additional \$60,000 this year?

Every gift counts. Every sacrifice is blessed!



Download this sermon & outline at www.flushingcommunity.org

Digging Deeper

[Engage the message throughout the week]

Monday: 3.07.2011

Passage: Revelation 3:14-22

Let's start our week by reviewing our final letter in this series ... the letter to Laodicea. What stands out to you as an action point for this week?

Pray for: *Friends facing job loss and financial strain*

Reflections: _____

Tuesday: 3.08.2011

Passage: Psalm 139:23-24

Tomorrow begins the season of Lent - our preparation for Easter Sunday! Be open to God's revealing grace - "Search me!"

Pray for: *that our personal and corporate worship would be deep*

Reflections: _____

Wednesday: 3.09.2011 "ASH WEDNESDAY"

Passage: Jonah 3

Jonah spent much of his life running from God's call to help the people of Nineveh turn to God. In this chapter, he finally obeys God and the people respond by fasting (not eating) and covering themselves with ashes, sack cloth and dust. Ash Wednesday begins a similar response repenting for us today.

Pray for: *Our Youth Ministry and Youth Pastor search process*

Reflections: _____

Thursday: 3.10.2011

Passage: Deuteronomy 7:7-9

What makes us different than someone else? Our last name. Our heritage. Our occupation. Today we are reminded that while we have differences, nothing but God's grace gives us any right to God's Kingdom. He is faithful to us no matter what and we deserve none of His favor.

Pray for: *Friends facing job loss and financial strain*

Reflections: _____

Friday: 3.11.2011

Passage: Titus 2:11-12

As we explore the depths of the Christian life together, we find that it is only possible by the grace of God. Realizing this demands that we respond in complete love and obedience to Him - not for the passions of this world.

Pray for: *Strength to live faithful lives before the Lord*

Reflections: _____

Lent 2011 | Interesting facts about this season

Lent is a 40 day journey (Ash Wednesday thru Easter Sunday) that will help us focus on the sacrifice of Jesus. The path of Lent will lead us on an amazing journey of joy and gladness that is also filled with deep sorrow and a call for repentance.

The word "lent" comes from the Old English word *lencten*, which means "lengthen." It refers to the lengthening of daylight which is occurring as spring approaches. It's commonly believed that Lent lasts for 40 days. It actually lasts 46 days because Sundays remained "resurrection celebrations" for the early church. So, the observation of Lent occurs Monday thru Saturday - leaving Sunday as a day to celebrate the resurrection.

Did you know about the connection between Palm Sunday and Ash Wednesday? The palm branches used in that observance are traditionally dried and then burned. The ashes are used for the following year's Ash Wednesday service.

Three traditional practices of Lent include prayer (justice toward God), fasting (justice toward self) and almsgiving (justice toward community). Today, that translates into giving up something (a food item, meals during the day, or even Facebook), adding something that will bring us closer to God (more prayer, Bible reading or worship observances) or contributing toward charity.

What would I like to go without: _____

What would I like to add: _____

How can I show greater charity: _____