

Sleeping in Church

SERIES: You Need to Hear This

Is it possible to have our names erased from God's Book of Life? What does the Bible say?

THE PICTURE:

• Jesus offering us His Spirit

Rev 3:1a

THE PROBLEM:

You can be in church and still not yet be <u>a believer</u>

Rev 3:1b

• You can be a believer and not be Spirit-driven

Rev 3:2

THE PRESCRIPTION:

- Cling to <u>the gospel</u>
- Reject <u>self-reliance</u>
- And you'll be ready for <u>Jesus</u>

Rev 3:3

THE PROMISE:

Jesus sees you as worthy

Rev 3:4-5a

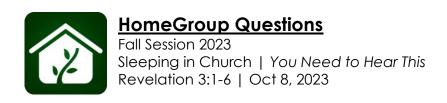
Jesus secures you <u>forever</u>

Rev 3:5b

SO YOU NEED TO HEAR THIS:

Knowing we are forever secure inspires us to wide-awake living

Rev 3:6



- 1. How easy is it for you to wake up in the morning? Do you need to hit the snooze button? If so, how many times? Have you ever overslept for an important event or meeting?
- 2. Read Revelation 3:1-6 and review the outline. What impacted you from the passage and the message?
- 3. At first glance, the church in Sardis seems full of problems. Can you find any glimmer of hope in the letter? What about from Jesus' promises?
- 4. Jesus uses several analogies in this letter: Dead vs. Alive, Awake vs. Asleep, Strong vs. About to Die, Unfinished vs. Complete; Soiled Garments vs. White Ones. Which do you connect with? Which best describes the way God tends to grow you?
- 5. How can focusing on one's reputation stumble someone in their spiritual journey? Explain.
- 6. How are self-reliance and the gospel diametrically opposed to one another?
- 7. In each letter, Jesus calls us to be victorious. Look at 1 John 5:4 and Romans 8:37. What do they tell us about our victory? (HINT: These verses help us realize that we are already victorious by faith and God simply wants us to learn to live that way.)
- 8. Doug said, "Knowing we are forever secure inspires us to wide-awake living." How does the promise that Jesus will never remove His followers from the Book of Life inspire you to deeper faith?
- 9. Are there any prayer requests or praises you'd like to share with your group?