“…let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” Hebrews 12:1

The Seven Churches: Revelation 2 & 3

Ephesus	Left first love – 2:4-5
Smyrna	Persecuted, but – 2:9-10
Pergamos	Impure teaching/doctrine – 2:14-16 (Galatians 1)
Thyatira	Lost purity – 2:20-23 like Jezebel and Ahab
Sardis	Dead – 3:1
Philadelphia	Kept commands… keep doing so – 3:8-11
Laodicea	Lukewarm – 3:15-16

Can we lose our grip?

As an Individual

- Demas? – Philemon 24, 2 Timothy 4:10
- Paul understood – 1 Corinthians 9:27

As a local church

- If we forget who we are – Deut. 6:11-12
- If we allow conflict – Gal. 5:15, Rom. 16:17

We need not lose our grip?

As an Individual

- Hold to the ONE Gospel – Rom. 1:16, Gal. 1:6-7
- Follow the directive – Matthew 28:18-20
- Beware and be alert – 1 Peter5:8-9, James 4:7

As a local church

- Hold to the ONE Gospel – Rom. 1:16, Gal. 1:6-7
- Follow the directive – Matthew 28:18-20
- Beware and be alert – 1 Peter 5:8-9, James 4:7

What must I do to be saved? *Acts 16:30*

- **Believe in Jesus –**
  John 8:24/3:16
- **Repent of Sins –**
  Luke 13:3-5; Acts 2:38/7:30-31
- **Confess your Faith in Jesus –**
  Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9
- **Baptism for the Remission Of Sins –**
  Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38/22:16
- **Live Faithfully for the Remainder of Life –**
  Revelation 2:10; James 2:10
- **Remember Matthew 7:21-23** *(not everyone, but…)*