

A Biblical Check Against Lukewarm Christianity

Ezekiel 33:31-32 - Class Discussion & Personal Application

Key Text - Ezekiel 33:31 KJV

"And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them..."

Ezekiel's listeners came to hear God's Word. They appeared interested and even enjoyed listening to Ezekiel (v. 32). The problem was not that they failed to hear the Word; hearing produced no change in their lives.

Question for the class: How do we keep from becoming lukewarm Christians?

1. Am I obeying what I already know?

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." - James 1:22

Bible knowledge without obedience can become spiritual self-deception.

☐ **Am I doing what God's Word teaches - not merely agreeing with it?**

2. Do I have an active prayer life?

"Pray without ceasing." - 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Christianity is a relationship with God, not merely knowledge about God.

☐ **Am I regularly talking with God, thanking Him, confessing sin, seeking His will, and praying for others?**

3. Am I consistently in God's Word?

"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed." - John 8:31

Scripture should continually teach, correct, encourage, and shape the believer.

☐ **Am I reading Scripture to be changed by it - not simply to accumulate knowledge?**

4. When God exposes sin, do I repent?

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." - Revelation 3:19

The answer to lukewarmness is not pretending we are spiritually strong. Christ tells the Laodiceans to repent.

☐ **Is there something I know is wrong that I have become comfortable allowing in my life?**

5. Does my love for Christ produce obedience?

"If ye love me, keep my commandments." - John 14:15

Obedience does not purchase salvation. It is a response to Christ.

☐ **Does the way I live demonstrate that Christ actually has authority over my life?**

6. Am I loving other people?

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." - John 13:35

Christian maturity is not measured solely by biblical knowledge. Christ identifies love as a distinguishing mark of His disciples.

☐ **Am I becoming more loving, forgiving, patient, compassionate, and willing to put others before myself?**

7. Am I serving when nobody notices?

"Thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly." - Matthew 6:4

Some of the best evidence of genuine devotion is what we willingly do when there is no recognition attached.

☐ **Would I still serve God and others if nobody ever knew I did it?**

8. Am I sharing the Gospel?

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations..." - Matthew 28:19

Christ gave His disciples a mission. The Gospel is not something Christians were intended to keep to themselves.

☐ **Am I looking for opportunities to tell others about Christ?**

9. Is the Holy Spirit producing fruit in my character?

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance..." - Galatians 5:22-23

Spiritual growth should eventually become visible in character.

☐ **Over time, am I becoming more like this?**

10. Am I doing the good works God has given me opportunities to do?

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works..." - Ephesians 2:10

We are not saved by good works (Ephesians 2:8-9), but those who are saved are called unto good works.

☐ **Is my faith producing action?**

11. Do I periodically examine my spiritual condition?

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves." - 2 Corinthians 13:5

It is possible to become spiritually comfortable without realizing how far our hearts have drifted.

☐ **Am I honestly examining my relationship with God rather than simply assuming everything is fine?**

The Ezekiel 33 Test

After hearing God's Word, ask:

☐ **What did I learn?**

☐ **What convicted me?**

☐ **What needs to change?**

☐ **What am I actually going to do about it?**

The danger described in Ezekiel 33 is not simply failing to attend or failing to listen. They came. They sat. They heard. They apparently enjoyed the message.

"They hear thy words, but they do them not." - Ezekiel 33:32

Hear the Word -> Believe the Word -> Obey the Word -> Repent when we fail -> Continue following Christ.