

**FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE**

- 1) *Key thought #1:* When Jesus is your first love, the proclamation of the gospel becomes your highest priority.
- 2) *2:9* For those who believe in and trust in Jesus, he makes them righteous, forever perfect to stand before a holy God.
- 3) *2:9* Paul chose to be bi-vocational in order to set himself and his ministry apart from the false apostles. He didn't want people linking his ministry with theirs.
- 4) *2:9-10* When you're captivated by the love of God, you're willing to do anything for Him.
- 5) *2:10* The proclamation of the gospel can't just be in words only; it has to be in the way we live our lives as well. And the proclamation of the gospel can't just be in the way we live our lives, it has to be with our words as well.
- 6) *2:9-10* When Jesus is your first love, the proclamation of the gospel becomes a life priority.
- 7) *Key thought #2:* When Jesus is your first love, obeying the call to make disciples becomes a reality in your life.
- 8) *2:11-12* Discipleship is the process whereby Christians help each other grow up in the faith.
- 9) *2:11-12* Jesus was Paul's first love and because of that truth, making disciples was a high priority.
- 10) *Key thought #3:* When Jesus is your first love, you hold onto the Word of God for what it really is...the Word of God.
- 11) *2:13* The Word of God is our authority, and because it is our authority, we submit ourselves to what it says.
- 12) *2:13* We don't obey to get a relationship with God. We obey because we have a relationship with God. The gospel motivates us toward obedience.
- 13) *2:13* We are to allow the Word of God to shape our worldviews. In other words, we agree with God about the world we live in, and we begin to think about life in a way that is consistent with the way He thinks.
- 14) *2:14* God's Word is an anchor for us in the midst of suffering.
- 15) How do you return to your first love? Revelation 2 says to do the things you did when you first fell in love:
  - Read the Word.
  - Go for a prayer walk.
  - Give.

**GREEK WORDS**

Parakaleo—to exhort; to earnestly support or encourage a response or action

Paramytheomai—to encourage; to alleviate sorrow or distress; give emotional strength to

Martyromai—to implore; to solemnly assert something, offering firsthand authentication of the fact; often concerning grave or important matters

**TODAY'S SONGS**

“The Lion and the Lamb” words and music by Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, and Leeland Mooring  
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“Hark the Herald Angels Sing” words and music by Christy Nockels, Nathan Nockels, Dustin Loehrs, Dan Galbraith  
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“Lord I Need You” words and music by Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, and Matt Maher  
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