



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of February 9, 2026



A Methodist church in Nashville, TN made this display of signage on Monday, Feb. 9th. Before you even step inside their building, what can you learn about this church's position on today's cultural issues? Discuss your answers.

1. Read Revelation 2:12-17. How would you summarize Jesus' message to this church in your own words?
2. Pergamum was an ancient city that promoted all the flavors of pagan worship of the ancient world. Temples and shrines were devoted to the worship of Athena, Dionysus, Zeus, Asclepius, and even the Roman Emperors (Roman Imperial Cult). What positive commendation did Jesus speak to these Christians in verses 12-13?
3. Jesus brought 2 primary critiques to the church at Pergamum. #1: *sins/corruption of Balaam*. #2: *sins/corruption of Nicolaitans*. Use a Study Bible or do a brief Google search. What were these sins and compromises all about? Explain in your own words. (Hint: mixing Christian truth and godliness with cultural error and ungodliness)
4. What are some of the issues of 21st century culture that are slowly creeping into the American church? *Example: acceptance of gay marriage*. What else? Why are churches compromising?
5. What command does Jesus give to the Christians in verse 16? What is "repentance"? What is Jesus threatening to do if the church doesn't correct their sinful compromise?
6. If today's churches aren't supposed to be directed by the dictates of the culture, then what is our ultimate agenda? (read Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8). If Satan can sidetrack churches into giving all their energy to political parties or culture wars, why is that a "win" for him?
7. What two rewards did Jesus promise the Christians who stay faithful, don't compromise, and make it to the finish line for Him (see verse 17)? Explain in your own words.
8. At the end of the message, Pastor Ryan said that "*You are called to believe and behave in all the ways that honor Jesus.*" What are you supposed to BELIEVE as a Christian? How are you supposed to BEHAVE? Should you mirror the culture around you? Why or why not? Use Romans 12:1-2 as part of your answer.

Cultural compromise is the quiet killer of the church.