Covered… But Not Close

Living on the Other Side of Atonement

Theme for MARCH: Atonement

Text Revelation 2:1–7

Big Idea: Atonement brought us into relationship, but we can drift from the relationship while still doing the work. You can be busy for God and still be distant from God.

Ice Breaker: Have you ever been physically present somewhere but mentally or emotionally checked out? What caused the disconnect?

Point 1: You Can Be Active but Not Affectionate (Revelation 2:2–4)

- They were working, serving, enduring, and discerning, yet Jesus says they left their first love.

- Atonement is His work… but affection is our response.

- God is not just after your hands—He's after your heart.

- Atoned people should be affectionate people.

Point 2: You Don't Drift by Accident, You Drift by Decisions (Revelation 2:4)

- Less prayer

- Less hunger

- Less time in the Word

- Less sensitivity to conviction

- More routine

- More distraction

- More doing and less being

Point 2: You Don't Drift by Accident, You Drift by Decisions (Revelation 2:4)

Nobody falls out of love in a day, it happens in small decisions.

Distance from God is rarely dramatic, it's usually gradual.

Point 3: The Way Back Is Intentional (Revelation 2:5)

Warning: Revelation 2:5 *"I will remove your lampstand…"*

You can have activity without anointing.

Atonement gave you access, but relationship requires engagement.

You can maintain the routine and still lose the relationship.

- Remember
- Repent
- Return

Reflection Questions

- Am I doing things for God but losing my love for God?
- When was the last time I felt passion in my relationship with Him?
- What area of my life is drifting right now?
- What do I need to remember, repent of, and return to?

Close: Jesus didn't die just to make you active, He died to make you intimate. Don't let the cross become routine. Don't let salvation become casual. Don't let worship become mechanical. Go back to your first love.