

Lesson 3

One Heart **ONE VOICE**



PREPARING TO BE EFFECTIVE
DISCIPLE-MAKERS
FOR THE KINGDOM



One Heart | One Voice

(Preparing to be Effective Disciple-Makers for the Kingdom)



General Conference
Ministerial Association

Organized and edited by Melody Mason, with assistance from Don MacLafferty and Shiloh Howard, for the General Conference Prayer Ministries.

Materials in this revival resource are taken primarily from *The Way Back to the Altar* curriculum but also include material from *Jesus' Last Love Letter*, *The Last Elijah* as well as a few excerpts from *Daring to Ask for More* and *Daring to Live by Every Word*.

Lesson 3 | TURN | *Leader's Guide*

As we read the book of Revelation, it's easy to get lost in the churches, the warnings, the scrolls and trumpets, and the many somber prophecies. But the very beginning of the book reminds us of what this book is all about. It's a "Revelation of Jesus Christ." And Revelation chapter three is a precious love letter to God's end-time people. In our last lesson, we began looking at Revelation 3:14-22.

We are living in an age when children, youth, and adults all desperately need to know that Someone loves them and will never leave them! Jesus warned us that prior to His coming, "most people's love will grow cold" (See Matthew 24:12). We see that this prophecy is being fulfilled now! This makes Jesus' last love letter of Revelation 3:14-22 very significant. As we continue to prepare our hearts to be part of OneVoice, let's continue to examine our hearts, recognize our need, and seek Jesus while we still can.

This lesson has been condensed and taken from the revival series: *Jesus' Last Love Letter* by Don MacLafferty. For more detailed leadership tips and the full study guide, please click the QR code or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/JesusLoveLetter>



Suggested outline for 1 hour 30-minute meeting

- Sing 2-3 songs of worship and praise. **(5-8 mins)**
- Give everyone a warm welcome and have opening prayer. **(5 mins)**
- Make sure people are arranged in small groups of 6. Even numbers are best if possible!
- Make sure each group has their leader. Keep the youth involved. **(2-3 mins)**
- Make sure everyone (or at least 1 person in each group) has a Bible.
- To begin, ask everyone to share with a partner how they did on the last challenge. The challenge from Lesson 2 was, "Ask God to reveal to you what needs to change in your life to take you from being lukewarm to being fiery hot?" What convictions has God given you and how have you responded to those convictions since the last lesson. **(4 mins)**
- Lead a time of united prayer with praise, confession, worship, then pray for the Holy Spirit. **(15 mins)** (See <https://tinyurl.com/Praying4Rain> for more tips on leading United Prayer.)
- Follow "TURN – Jesus' Last Love Letter" study outline with the appeal. **(35-40 mins)**
- At the end, meet in small groups to discuss practical ways to take the message home, then have them pray together one more time for OneVoice, before leaving. **(15 mins)**
- Take time to gather and pray with the small group leaders too, if possible.

Lesson 3 | **TURN** | *The Study*

In this lesson, we will continue our study of Jesus' last love letter found in Revelation 3:14-22. In this letter, Jesus openly tells young and old who He is, how much He loves them, and how to have a close relationship with Him. He appeals to them to get real about their personal faith and to run to Him for love, life, and freedom while there is still time left. Before we continue our study of this amazing love letter, let's do a connect activity.

Connect Activity: Preparation for the Word

[Leader Tip: *The following activity should be done in the small groups. If you are doing this on your own, be creative and ask yourself these questions. Give 3-5 minutes for this activity.*]

- Invite each one in their group to answer this question: What is some of the best advice you have received over your lifetime?
- Ask for a few volunteers to share with everyone.
- Think of who has given you advice and how they gave it to you. Sometimes we appreciate the advice given, sometimes not. It makes a big difference who gives us the advice.

Tonight, we will explore advice that Jesus gives us. Let's open our hearts to receive advice from the One who loves us the most. Let's pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare each heart to receive the Word.

Part I - Buy Three Things

Read and discuss Revelation 3:18. What three things does Jesus ask us to buy from Him?

What is "gold refined by fire"? Read the following passages and discuss, or journal what you learn.

- Job 23:10, Psalm 19:9,10, Zech. 13:9, Mal. 3:2,3, I Peter 1:6,7

What are the "white garments" Jesus wants us to buy from Him? Why does Jesus say we need these white garments? Read the following passages and discuss, or journal what you learn.

- Rev. 4:4, Rev. 7:9,10,13,14, Rev. 3:5, Zech. 3:4

Why does Jesus say, "Buy from Me...eye salve so you may see." We cannot see what God sees, on our own. Where are some other examples in the Bible where people prayed that others might see?

- Look up 2 Kings 6:14-17, and pray the prayer from Psalm 119:18.

How does God give us sight, so we may see what God wants us to see? God gives us the Holy Spirit. Consider the following beautiful passages about Who the Holy Spirit is in our lives.

- John 14:26 “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit...will teach you all things...”
- John 16:13 “But when He, the Spirit of Truth, comes, He will guide you in all the truth...”
- John 16:15 Jesus said, “All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.”

When someone gives you advice, it is always good to consider the source. In Revelation 3:18, we receive advice from Jesus, our Savior, the One who loves us the most, the One who died in our place, and the One who is preparing to take us home to be with Him forever! Jesus’ advice is for you and I to come to Him for what we need. He says in Isaiah 55:1 “Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money come, buy and eat...”

What a beautiful invitation we’ve received! How does this invitation speak to your heart today?

Part II - Turn back to Me

[Leader Tip: *Time for another connect activity. Get a compass, and determine where North is.]*

- Invite all groups to stand and close their eyes. Ask them all to point where they think true North is—keeping their eyes closed. Then have them open their eyes. (Everyone will most likely be pointing a different direction!)
- Ask everyone to turn and face North.

Did you notice, if you were doing this with a group, that everyone has many different opinions about which direction is true North? We have the same problem in our world today. We are facing a crisis as many are struggling to know which direction is true North, in other words, what is truth. That’s why God has given us His Word. His Word gives us our true North. God’s Word points us to the truth and to Jesus. “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” (Isa. 8:20, NKJV)

Now that we’ve seen our true condition, and what Jesus wants us to ask of Him, it’s time to study Jesus’ call to turn back to Him. Remember this revival is the simple heart cry of Jesus. It’s our preparation to be of one heart and one voice, working together to make disciples for God’s glory.

[Leader Tip: *Ask everyone to work in groups of 2-3 as they look at Rev. 3:19. Have them read it out loud and discuss. If doing this study alone, journal your responses.]*

- What does this passage say about Jesus?
- What does it say about what He wants us to understand?

What does Jesus say He does for those He loves? [Greek *philo* - love of a friend]

- He reproves us. [Greek *elencho* - meaning “to expose, convict, to prove wrong.”]
- He disciplines us. [Greek *paideuo* - meaning “to train children, to chasten, correct.”]

What does Jesus call us to do?

- Be zealous. [Greek *zeleuo* - meaning “to have warmth of feeling for or against, to be zealous or jealous.”]
- Repent. [Greek *meanoeson* - meaning “to change one’s mind or purpose.”]

How can we find the power to repent from something sinful we love to do? The answer is found in Ezekiel 36:26,27.

[Leader’s Tip: Ask the small groups to read Ezekiel 36:26,27 and count how many promises God makes us in these two verses. Then ask volunteers to answer this question: What is God promising to do for us right now?]

God is ready to do a heart surgery on us! He is ready to cut out our heart of stone and give us a new heart!

A Pastor’s Testimony

One month after my wife and I were married, I was serving as a student chaplain in Florida Hospital for the summer. One day, I was asked if I would like to observe an open-heart surgery. I cautiously agreed.

The next day I went up to the heart surgery unit and put on a gown, hat, gloves, and mask. I was ushered into the surgery room where I saw the master surgeon hard at work surrounded with his team. The surgeon glanced up and noticed me standing cautiously many feet away. He called me over to where he stood and directed me to stand just a few feet away where I could see the surgery up close!

I stared down into the man’s chest. I gulped nervously as I watched the surgeon gently place his hands around the man’s heart. “What is this?” The surgeon asked me. Flustered by the question, I frantically tried to remember if there was some technical term I should use for the heart. My mind went blank.

As I stared at that man’s beating heart, I was in absolute awe. I reverently replied, “It is a gift.” The surgeon looked me right in the eyes and said, “Young man, you are right. Never forget it!”

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Jesus has given you and me the gift of a heart. When we turn away from Christ, we damage our own heart. We fill our hearts with bitterness, anger, selfishness, and pride. Jesus offers to give us heart surgery today. He offers to cut out the hardness of our hearts and to give us a new heart.

[Leader's Tip: *If possible, share your own testimony about how God turned your heart back to Him. Make it practical, authentic, and real. Then take time to ask the small groups and everyone present: WHO would like to have this heart surgery today? You might say something like the following.]*

- If God is impressing you to have this heart surgery, I invite you to come forward and to get on your knees.
- Tell God why you need Him to give you a heart surgery. Ask Him to give you this gift right now.
- Give everyone a few minutes to come forward, as soft music plays. Allow them to pray silently, then as a leader, pray a prayer claiming the promises of Ezekiel 36:26,27 for all who are asking for this surgery.

God is eager and willing to give you this heart surgery today! Ask Him by faith and believe that He has answered. He can do the impossible. He always honors His Word!

Practical Take Home Heart-Challenge

- Ask God to anoint your eyes with the Holy Spirit, so you can see yourself, God, and others as He sees them.
- Ask God to continue to perform surgery on your heart, as described in Ezekiel 36:26,27.
- Act as if He has. Make practical steps to ask forgiveness of those you have wronged. Forgive those who have wounded you. Ask Jesus to give you His love, even for those who have hurt you.
- Refuse to allow bitterness to live in your heart or life any longer.

If you missed Lesson 1 or Lesson 2, you can find the links and QR codes to them here!

Lesson 1 - PREPARE - <https://tinyurl.com/OneHeart-OneVoice-Lesson1>



Lesson 2 - EXAMINE - <https://tinyurl.com/OneHeart-OneVoice-Lesson2>

