

# Stop Compromising

2025-07-06 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



## Revelation 2:12-17

### FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

#### WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

Pergamum was a hard place to be a Christian. Jesus calls it the city where Satan has his throne, and a believer named Antipas had already been killed there for his faith. The church held on anyway. But Jesus still had something against them. They were making room for teachings that allowed a little compromise. Pastor Matt's point is that faithfulness in big things does not cancel out accommodation in small ones. Sacrifice feels heavy while it is new. It stops feeling heavy as you get taken with what God is building through it.

### To get started

- What is a small compromise you made that turned out to matter more than it looked?

### Looking back at the message

He aimed this at the church's own practices too, not only at individuals.

- 1 Pastor Matt said a church can compromise while trying to reach people, softening things to keep everyone comfortable. What does that look like in practice?
- 2 Pastor Matt said church online exists for people who cannot come, not for the convenience of people who can. What was your honest reaction to that?
- 3 Pergamum stayed faithful under real persecution and still had a compromise problem. What does that tell you about where compromise sneaks in? OPTIONAL

### Looking at the passage

Read Revelation 2:12-17 aloud. Antipas is named; that is worth pausing on.

- 4 Read Revelation 2:13. Jesus names where they live and what they held onto. What does he commend them for?
- 5 Jesus names one man, Antipas, who was killed for his faith. What does it tell you that Jesus knows him by name?
- 6 Read verses 14-15. The church tolerated certain teachings. What made those teachings dangerous?
- 7 Verse 17 promises hidden manna and a white stone with a new name on it. What do you think those gifts are meant to say to someone who refused to compromise? OPTIONAL

## Bringing it home

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Nobody here is facing execution. He said so himself; keep that honest.

- 8 Pastor Matt pointed out that none of us are risking our lives for faith like Pergamum did, only our comforts. What comfort would real faithfulness cost you?
- 9 Small compromises feel harmless precisely because they are small. Where do you make room for one because it seems minor?
- 10 Pastor Matt said sacrifice feels heavy while it is new, then stops feeling heavy as you get caught up in what God builds through it. When have you seen that happen?
- 11 If you got serious about following Jesus this year, what is one thing you would cut out?

OPTIONAL

## The group together

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The pressure to accommodate is usually social. That makes it a group topic.

- 12 Where does the pressure to compromise usually come from for you: people, comfort, or fear?
- 13 Groups can make holding a line easier or harder. How could this one make it easier?
- 14 If this group decided together, what is one thing it would refuse to trade away?

### BEFORE YOU FINISH

What compromise have you been making room for, and what would it take to stop?

## You might pray about

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- For those holding a line at real cost
- For the small accommodations that have become normal
- For courage that does not depend on the outcome
- For what God is building being worth what it costs