

Lukewarm Christians (part three)

Revelation 3:14-16

The characteristics that we have covered and will cover are not an all-inclusive definition of what it means to be a Christian, nor is it intended to be used as ammo to judge others' salvation. Rather, as 2 Corinthians 13:5 says, it is a call to "examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves."

We are all messed-up human beings, and no one is completely immune to these behaviors. However, there is a difference between a life that is characterized by these sorts of mentalities and habits and a life that is in the process of being radically transformed. With that in mind, let's continue to take a serious self-inventory.

8. Lukewarm Christians say they love Jesus, and He is, indeed, a part of their lives _____.
 - They give Him a section of their time, their money, and their thoughts, but He isn't allowed to control their lives (Col. 1:18; 3 John 9).
 - The three men that called Jesus "Lord" but...(Luke 9:57-62)

9. Lukewarm Christians will serve God and others, but there are _____ to this.
 - There are limits to how far they will go or how much time, money and energy they are willing to give.
 - The rich, young ruler (Luke 18:21-25)

10. Lukewarm Christians think of _____ much more often than _____ in heaven.
 - Daily life is mostly focused on today's to-do list and this week's schedule (Phil. 3:18-20).
 - Rarely, do they consider the life that is to come (Col. 3:2).
 - "If you read history you will find that the Christians who did the most in this present world were precisely those who thought the most of the next. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this." - C.S. Lewis

11. Lukewarm Christians do not live by faith; their lives are structured so _____.
 - They don't have to trust God if something unexpected happens-they have their bank account.
 - They don't genuinely seek out what life God would have them live-they have life mapped out.
 - They don't daily depend on God-they are in pretty good health and their refrigerators are full.
 - The danger is their lives wouldn't look much different if they suddenly stopped believing in God (Luke 12:16-21).

