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# Revelation For the Church

The Very Rev. Loren Fox



a church community with a heart for the world

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## Addressing the Seven Churches: Chapters 1-3

An Outline of Chapters 1-3

- Introduction (1: 1-8)
  - Prologue (1:1-3)
  - Greetings and Doxology (1 :4-8)
- Jesus among the Seven Churches (1:9-20)
- The Letters to the Seven Churches (chs. 2-3)
  - Ephesus (2: 1-7)
  - Smyrna (2:8-11)
  - Pergamum (2: 12-17)
  - Thyatira (2: 18-29)
  - Sardis (3: 1-6)
  - Philadelphia (3:7-13)
  - Laodicea (3: 14-22)

What Key Observations Might We Look For Here?

- Six Questions:
  - Who, What, Where, When, Why and How?
- Four “actors”
  - Author
  - Audience
  - Message
  - Story within the Message

## Small Group Dynamics

In teaching, I build a foundation of “what” the text says, give a framework for “what it means”, and only suggest possibilities for “what it means to me?” (where each student is the “me”).

In a small group, the host again starts with “what”, encourages the participates to ask “so what”, and emphasizes “now what”—where each and every member of the group has an opportunity to apply the Scriptures to their own lives.

In both cases, we are doing three things: observation, interpretation, and application. The balance however is different, with the small group having the advantage of engaging each individual more directly.