

## **Losing Your First Love Revelation 2:1-5**

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1. Do you remember your first love? I do.
  2. The interesting thing about faith is that it can either grow or decline. It's our choice.
  3. I wonder how it happened with the church in Ephesus.
  4. When Jesus looks at this church, He says, "**Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love.**"
- I have 3 questions that I want us to consider this morning.

### **I. What Is First Love?**

- A. What is first love in our personal relationships?
- B. What is "first love" in God's eyes?
  1. **Eph. 3:17-19**
- C. Our first love needs to be protected.

### **II. How Do You Lose Your First Love? Rev. 2:4**

- A. How do you lose something as exciting as first love?
  1. **Matt. 24:12-13**
- B. Scripture often uses the marriage relationship as an illustration.
- C. What happens when we lose our first love of the Lord?
  1. First, we lose the joy of our Christianity.
  2. Second, we lose our ability to love others.
  3. Third, we lose perspective of ourselves.

### **III. How Do You Find A Love That Is Lost? Rev. 2:5**

- A. To find your first love Jesus says to "Remember."
- B. Second, Jesus says to "Repent."
- C. Third, Jesus says we are to repeat. **Verse 5 "Do the things you did at first."**

The lessons from the Ephesians are:

1. You can be sound in your doctrine, and shallow in your relationship to Jesus.
2. You can be busy FOR the Lord, but hardly spend any time WITH the Lord.
3. You can be passionate about your convictions, but passive in your relationship to the Lord.