

**Introduction:****Text:** Revelation 3:1-6**A. Christ's POSITION in the Church (v. 1a)**

1. Christ is the **holder** of the church.
2. Christ is the **Lord** of the leader and members of the church.
  - a. **Insight:** The key to a victorious life is full surrender and total obedience to Christ to the end of our life (Rev. 2:26; 3:5).
  - b. **Introspection:** Is there anything in my life that is not fully surrendered to the lordship of Christ?

**B. Christ's PROBING the Church (vv. 1b-4)**

Probing the church in Sardis, Christ told them that He knows:

1. Their deeds are not satisfactory to **God** (vv. 1a, 2b).
2. Their reputation of being alive, but they are **dead** spiritually (v. 1b).
3. They are **asleep** spiritually (v. 2).
4. What they have remaining is about to **die** (v. 2a).
5. What they need to recall, to obey, and to repent of **urgently** (v. 3).
6. The few people in Sardis who are **worthy** to walk with Him (v. 4).

**C. Christ's PROMISE to the Overcomer (vv. 4b-6)**

1. They will **walk** with Christ (v. 4b).
2. They will be dressed in **white** for they are worthy (v. 4b-5a).
3. Christ will **not** blot out their name from the Book of Life (v. 5; 20:12, 15; 21:27).

**Note:**

- a. Verse 5 has been and still is a subject of theological debate between **unconditional and conditional predestinarians**. Explain.

- b. Verse 5 alone, not to mention the many other Scriptures, **supports conditional predestination** or conditional eternal security.

4. Christ will **acknowledge** the name of every overcomer before His Father and His angels (v. 5)
5. Christ's promises to the **overcomers** also apply to us today (v. 6).

**Conclusion:****TABLETALK STARTERS**

(For family devotions and Life Group discussions)

**Read:** Revelation 3:1-6**Respond to the following statements.**

1. Christ tells it as it is when He diagnoses the spiritual condition of people.
2. None is more deceived than one who is self-deceived, like the members of the church in Sardis.
3. People can be dead spiritually without knowing it, until they are told by Christ.
4. People's reputation is not necessarily what it appears to be.
5. People can be blinded by the glitter of their false reputation.
6. In today's secular and materialistic culture, what are the marks of the reputation of being alive that blind even church people from seeing their spiritual deadness.
7. False reputation gives people false security.
8. Jesus can not be bluffed by people's false reputation.
9. Moral decay leads to spiritual death, like what happened to the church in Sardis.
10. What is Christ's remedy to avoid or to revive from spiritual death (Rev. 3:2-3)?