

Introduction

- Ch2-3: specific message for each of the seven churches
- Pergamum
 - Capital city of this region
 - Very patriotic- 1st to build temple to a living emperor (29BC)
 - Very religious- temples to Zeus, Athena, Dionysius, and Asclepius



Write to angel of church	To the angel of the church in Pergamum
Description of Jesus	Him who has the sharp, double-edged sword
Encouragement	I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name...You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city
Correction	I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam...Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans
Call to repent	Repent therefore
Potential punishment	I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth
Promise to overcomers	I will give some of the hidden manna, (and) a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it
Call to listen	He who has ears, listen to what Spirit says

Our cultural gods



Busyness

- Busyness is actually driven-ness, we don't live lead by Spirit but driven by expectations and schedules
- Biblical solution = rest
- Gen 2.2: By the seventh day God had finished the work He had been doing; so on the seventh day He rested from all His work.
- God rests from work, we work from place of rest
- Rest is ultimately an expression of trust in God

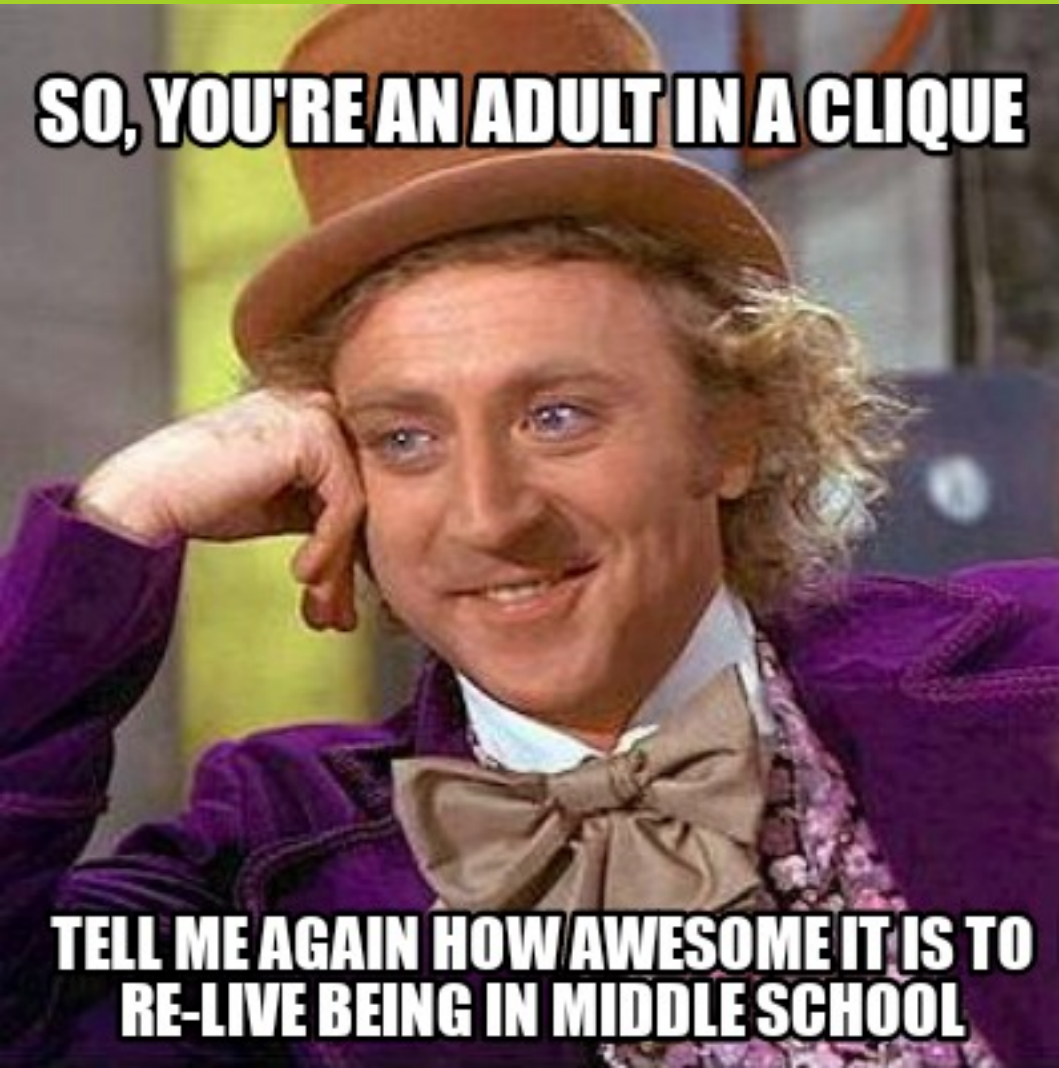
Our cultural gods



Money

- #1 worry among Americans is finances (in midst of strong economy no less)
- Biblical solution = generosity
- Matt 6.20-21: But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- We tend to give what is left over after we've taken care of ourselves vs giving first and then living off what is left over

Our cultural gods



SO, YOU'RE AN ADULT IN A CLIQUE

**TELL ME AGAIN HOW AWESOME IT IS TO
RE-LIVE BEING IN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Superficial Relationships

- *Feeling* that you are isolated even if you aren't, can't trust anyone even if you can, and have to protect yourself even if you don't
- Biblical solution = transparency (letting people see into you) and vulnerability (letting people speak into you)
- Gen 2.18: The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."