

## Warning: this church may be bad for you!

<sup>20</sup> If they have escaped the pollutions of the world through full knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, then are again entangled in it and overcome, their final condition is worse than it was at first.

<sup>21</sup> It would have been better for them not to have fully known the way of righteousness than to have fully known it and then to turn away from the holy commandment passed on to them.

<sup>22</sup> What has happened to them cannot be hidden. In proverb: "A dog returns to its vomit," and, "A pig that is washed, goes back to wallowing in the mud."

2 Peter 2:20-22

### Church can be . . . . . for you, v20a

Church gives me good . . . . .

"out of... into..." 1 Peter 2:9

Church gives me good . . . . .

### Church can be . . . . . for you, v20b

Church cannot give me . . . . .

"it is your task" Ezra 10:4. Galatians 6:5

Resilience comes from . . . . .

Church takes away my . . . . .

No repentance – No . . . . .

### Church can be . . . . . for you, v21-22

Knowledge comes with . . . . .

"If I tell..." Ezekiel 33:12-15

"Some will abandon the faith" 1 Timothy 4:1-2

"treat her/him as a pagan" Matthew 18:17

Knowledge must become . . . . .

"Grow in grace and knowledge" 2 Peter 3:18

You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, so that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness, into His wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:9

## My prayer priorities for this week

S 15 Tony & Diane

M 16 Joan J. Lyn K

T 17 Elsie & Bert

W 18 Karen & Hung

T 19 Sopi & Marieta, Jayden

F 20 Vi-Lay L. Bianca R.

S 21 Alison & Richard, Brian

S 22 Mary P

## Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion

1. Church can be good for you. What are some of the benefits you most appreciate about our church?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:9. How do the opening descriptions help to prevent backsliding? How does the action statement in the middle of the verse help to prevent backsliding? How do the two steps at the end of the verse help to prevent backsliding?
3. Why is it important to distinguish between a) being saved; and b) going to church? When would it be right, and when would it be wrong to link salvation and church together?
4. What was the first word of Jesus' ministry (Matthew 4:17)? Why is that one of the most important words in the world?
5. List some reasons why someone would go to church if they are unsaved. Do those reasons make it easy, or difficult, to dechurch?
6. How can we counteract the two problems of 1 Timothy 4:1-2?

## Tithes and offerings (Target: \$2,700 per week)

At the bank, LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 034 866. Account: 005 008 757.

Online, LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 704 922. Account: 005 008 757.

## Donations to mission in Myanmar (Target: \$1,000 per month)

Account name: LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 032 260. Account: 422732.