

Revelation 3:1-6

(A selection of question, feel free to pick which ever ones work best for your group....)

#### LISTEN TO CHRIST

##### CALLING US OUT (v1)

- The church in Sardis('Tardis') have a reputation for being alive but they are dead v1, they are called to 'wake up' v2... what sort of responses, feelings, questions might have arisen for the first recipients of this letter in Sardis?
- What things make this fundamentally hard to hear?
- What clues are there in v1-6 about what the problems were in Sardis? Might we have these problems?
- Should we expect Christ to 'call us out' in scripture?
- What would it mean for us if the Bible never disagreed with what we thought or how we lived?! (or – shouldn't we expect Christ to call us out from time to time?)
- When are you a 'Tardis Christian'?

##### CALLING US BACK (v2-3)

- In what way to these verses point us to the heart of the Christian message?
- In what areas, or in which situations, or with which people are you most likely to compromise with the world and abandon Christ?
- When have you found it hard to follow Christ? What encouragement might there be for us in these difficulties?
- Do we find it hard to believe Christ might act in judgement before the last day? Would we notice if he did? How should we respond to this severe warning to the church in Tardis?

##### CALLING US BY NAME (v4-6)

- What are the three promises Christ makes to the faithful remnant in Sardis? How are these encouraging for you?
- Why do we find the idea of living all out – 100% - for Christ so alarming? What is holding us back? What lie have we believed?
- What might it look like for us if we rejected Tardis Christianity and embraced whole-hearted lives for Christ?
  - How might that change our situation at school/work?
  - How might it change our families?
  - How might it change our life together as a church family?(What might this cost us?)

Having thought about all these things, what might we want to say to Sleep Sofia?

**You've been friends with Sofia since you met at a croquet tournament in year 5 at school and realised you were both Christians and both loved Pokémon. Everyone loves Sofia, she does well at her work, she always gets picked to do stuff at church, she even got her picture in the local paper because she does so much recycling... But you've noticed she kind of avoids talking about Jesus sometimes. When she was asked about other religions she just changed the topic. She seems to have a gift for saying what people want to hear. You are a bit worried about her... what might you say...?**

And finally, the great reformer Martin Luther once said:

“If I profess with loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except that little point which the world and the Devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefield besides, is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.”

What might Martin say to your small group if you met him in a pub in Wittenberg one evening for a pint?