

Microsites to Thrive:

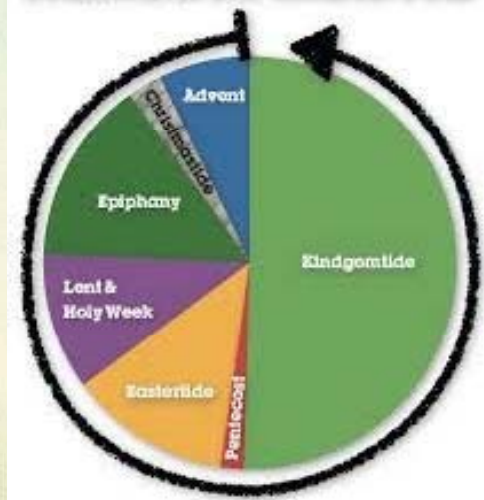
Seven Churches that Reveal

THE POWER OF
small

1. Like the Beginning
2. Be Faithful While Suffering
3. Against False Teachings and Sinful Practices
4. In the Midst of Sexual Immorality
5. Constantly Awakening
6. Patiently Endure
7. Go Cool Like Gold Refined

Begin Kingdom-tide
at Microsites of Savage & Lanham

Seasons of the Church Year



THE MICROSITE
CHURCH

Revelation 2:18-29

A Role of the Church on Sexual Immorality

Thyatira, A Roman City of Commercial Importance

Filled with Sexual Immorality



THYATIRA
THE CHURCH OF
IDOLATROUS COMPROMISE

Revelation 2:18-29

Misleading Church Leadership

Prophetess Jezebel at the Church in Thyatira

Jezebel – 1 Kings 16; 18, 21; 2 Kings 9

-A Phoenician princess

-Married **King Ahab** and incited him to sin

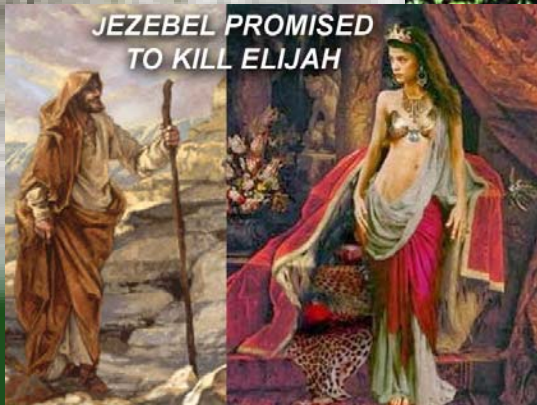
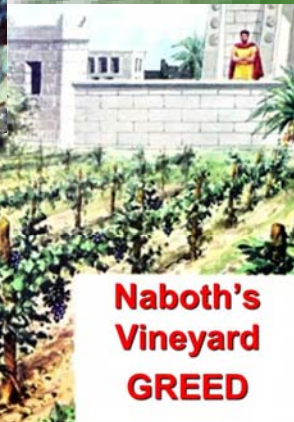
-A devotee to **Baal**, Phoenician god of fertility

- Supported **850 prophets of Baal and Asherah**

-Took **Naboth's Vineyard**

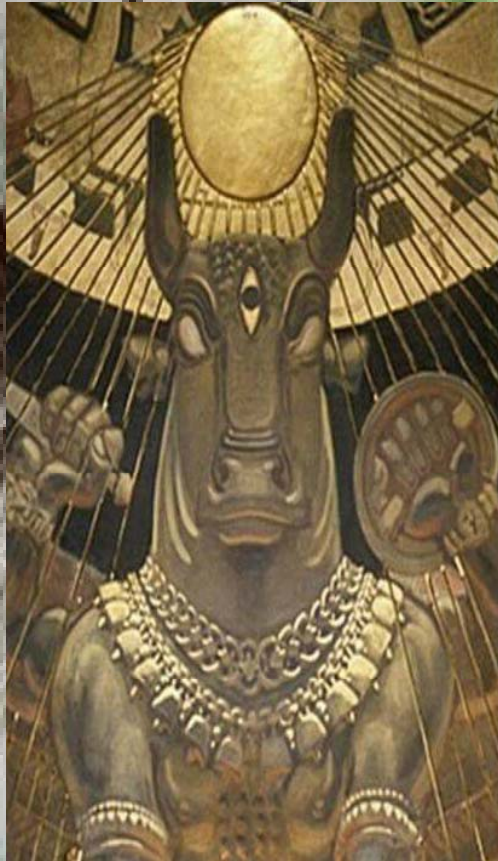
-Painted her eyes, adorned her head, and greeted Jehu

- eunuchs threw her down and killed



Revelation 2:18-29

Rise of Baalism?



Ba'al (Biblical Hebrew בעל, usually spelled Baal in English) is a Northwest Semitic title, and symbolically, meaning "master" or "lord" that is used for various gods who were patrons of cities in the Levant and Asia Minor.

Ba'al can refer to any god and even to human officials. In some texts it is used for Hadad, a god of the rain, thunder, fertility and agriculture. Since only priests were allowed to utter his divine name, Hadad, Ba'al was commonly used. "Ba'al" refer to Hadad, the lord over the assembly of gods on the holy mount of Heaven, but rather refer to any number of local spirit-deities worshipped as cult images, each called Ba'al and regarded in the Hebrew Bible in that context as a "false god".

Revelation 2:18-29

A Church Overcoming Sexual Immorality





1. The Son of God knows you on a way to
perfection.

Microsites to Thrive
6. *In the Midst of Sexual Immorality*

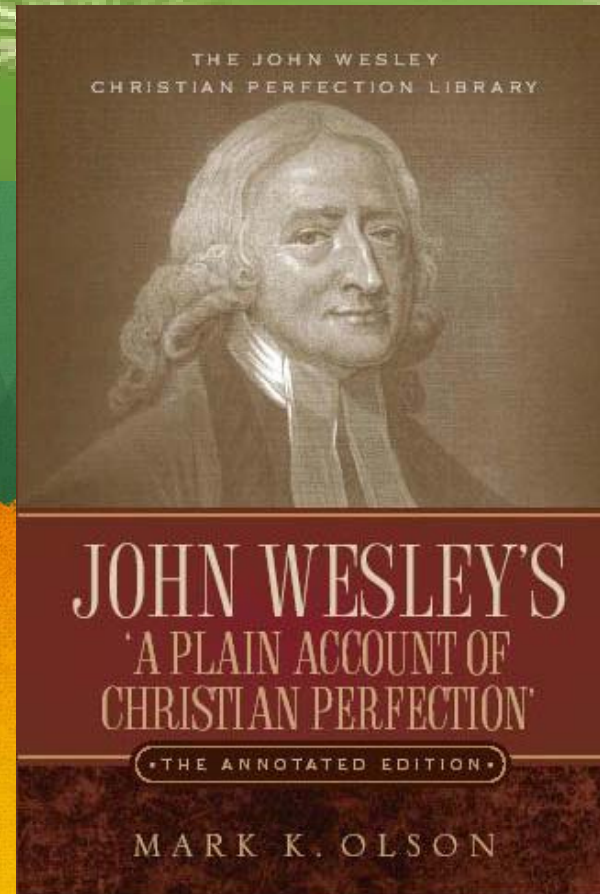
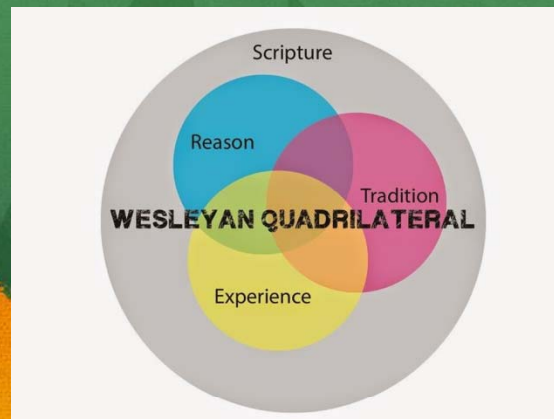
1. *The Son of God knows you on a way to perfection.*

*I know your deeds,
your love and faith,
your service and perseverance*
Revelation 2:19



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6. In the Midst of Sexual Immorality

1. *The Son of God knows you on a way to perfection.*



On the Way to Perfection

Discipleship In the Wesleyan Tradition

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6. In the Midst of Sexual Immorality

1. *The Son of God knows you on a way to perfection.*



+ BWC voted 310 to 233 to endorse “The One Church Plan” on May 31

+ The Council of Bishop will bring before the 2019 Special Session of General Conference



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6. In the Midst of Sexual Immorality

1. The Son of God knows you on a way to perfection.

“ Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

—MATTHEW 5:43-48

www.alittleperspective.com
“Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”
Matthew 5:48

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2. Do not tolerate those who mislead you on human sexuality.

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6. *In the Midst of Sexual Immorality*

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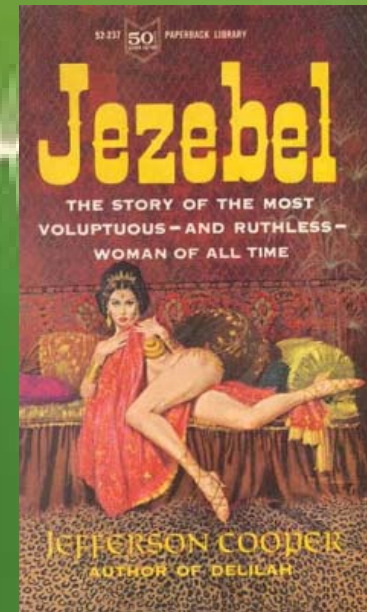
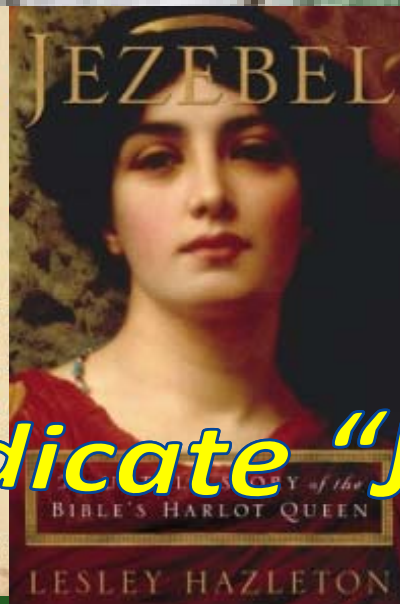
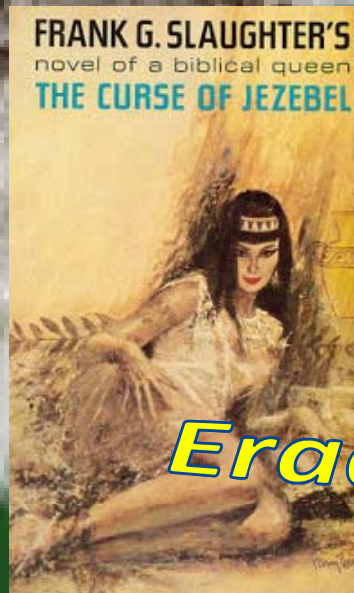
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6. In the Midst of Sexual Immortality

2. Do not tolerate those who mislead you on human sexuality.

Jezebel in the Church

- JEZEBEL avoids prayer- especially in the spirit, because it binds her spirit
- Intimidates, inciting fear and the desire to run away; challenges your spirituality (1 Kings 19:3-4).
- Directs spiritual leaders in what they should do (1 Kings 21:8).
- Utilizes spiritual pretense, formulas or exercises to accuse people; disqualifies others by exploiting their weaknesses.



Eradicate "Jezebel Spirit"

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6. In the Midst of Sexual Immortality

2. Do not tolerate those who mislead you on human sexuality.



Every 98 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted.

RAINN National Sexual Assault Hotline | 800.656.HOPE | online.rainn.org
Please visit rainn.org/statistics/victims-sexual-violence for full citation.¹

RAINN RAPE, ABUSE & INCEST NATIONAL NETWORK

THE MAJORITY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS ARE UNDER 30


Age Group	Percentage
age 12-17 ⁱ	15%
age 18-34 ⁱ	54%
age 35-64 ⁱ	28%
age 65+ ⁱⁱ	3%

RAINN National Sexual Assault Hotline | 800.656.HOPE | online.rainn.org
Please visit rainn.org/statistics/victims-sexual-violence for full citation.²

Is sexual harassment explicitly prohibited in the workplace?

Legend:
Red: No prohibition
Yellow: Only harassment of women
Green: Yes, for both women and men

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6. In the Midst of Sexual Immortality



3. Give thanks and celebrate what you've received from God.

Microsites to Thrive
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As conveyed in Chapter 3 of “Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive,” the preparatory catechesis for the World Meeting of Families —

Philadelphia 2015

*“Our bodies are not simply shells for the soul or sensory machines for the brain. Nor are they raw material we can freely abuse or re-program. For Christians, **body and spirit are profoundly integrated.**”*

*“The tangible, earthly, corporeal world is more than inert matter or modeling clay for the human will. **Creation is sacred. It has sacramental meaning. It reflects God’s glory. That includes our bodies.***

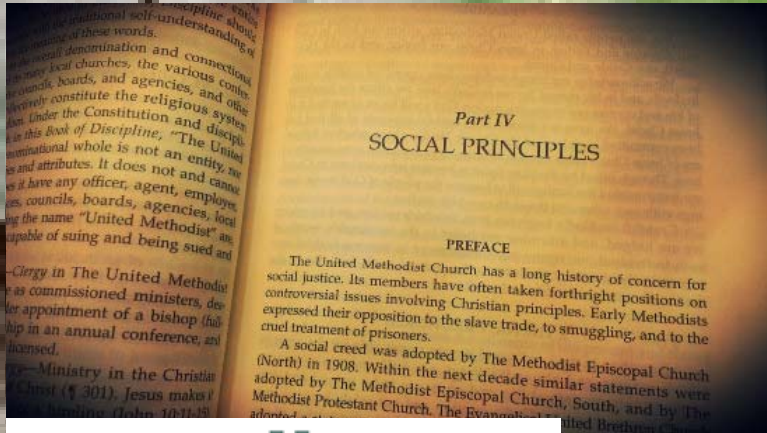
Our sexuality has the power to procreate, and shares in the dignity of being created in the image of God.

We need to live accordingly.”

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161 G) **Human Sexuality** – *We affirm that sexuality is God's good gift to all persons. We call everyone to responsible stewardship of this sacred gift. ...*

We deplore all forms of the commercialization, abuse, and exploitation of sex. ...

All persons, regardless of age, gender, marital status, or sexual orientation, are entitled to have their human and civil rights ensured and to be protected against violence. ...

The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching. ...

We implore families and churches not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends.

We commit ourselves to be in ministry for and with all persons.

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SAFE SANCTUARIES

Providing a safe environment for children & youth as they grow in faith



Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality



Toward a Faithful
United Methodist Witness
Study Guide



HIGHER EDUCATION & MINISTRY
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Living Faithfully

Human Sexuality
and The United
Methodist
Church

A Four-Week Small Group Study



healthy marriage
healthy family

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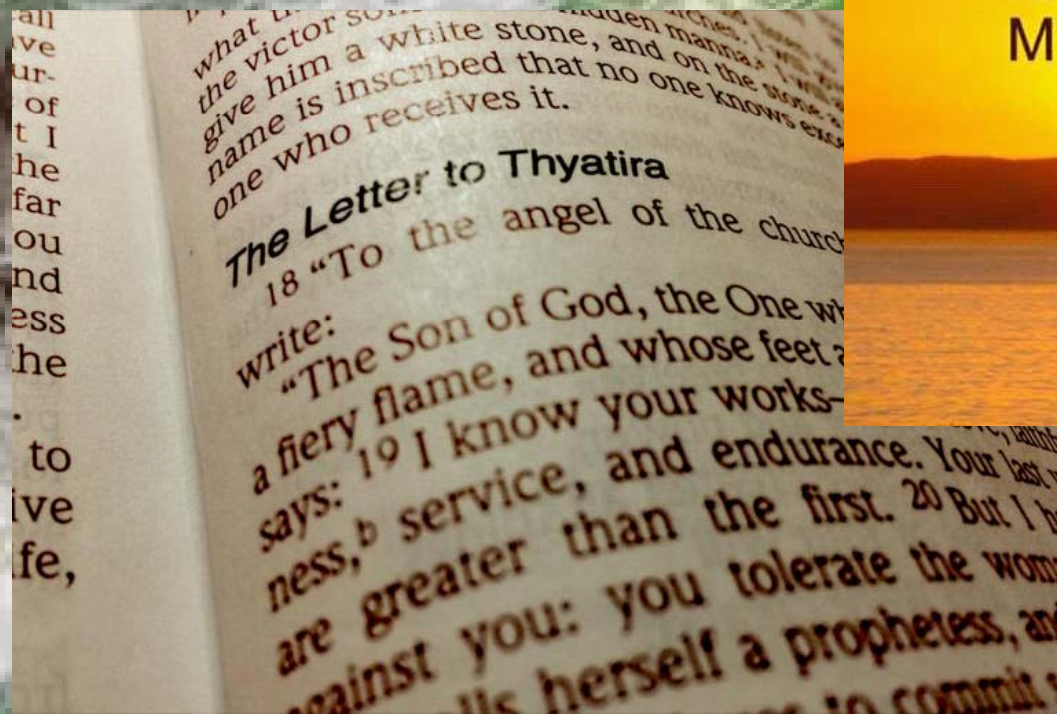


4. *Live daily with the hope of the coming of the Morning Star.*

Microsites to Thrive

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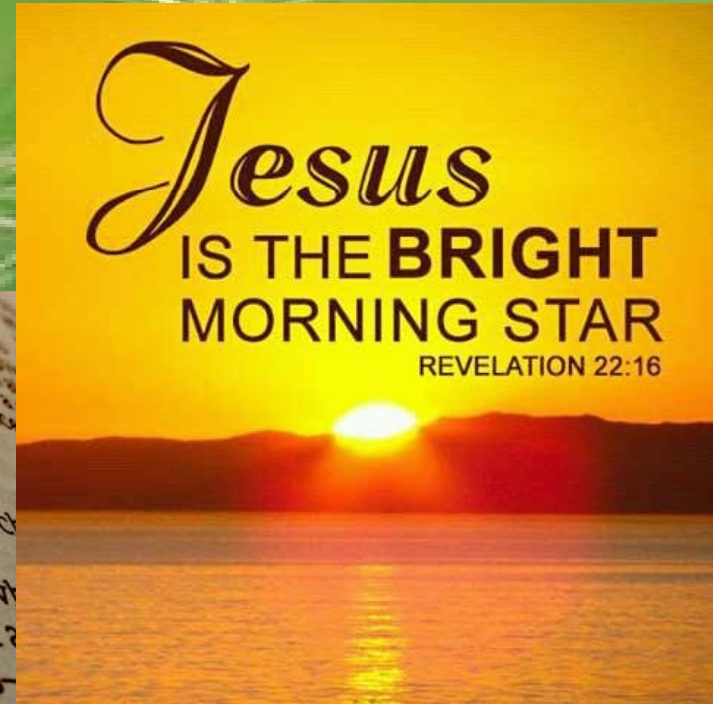
4. *Live daily with the hope of the coming of the Morning Star.*



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what u
the victor so
give him a white stone, and on the stone
name is inscribed that no one knows ex
one who receives it.

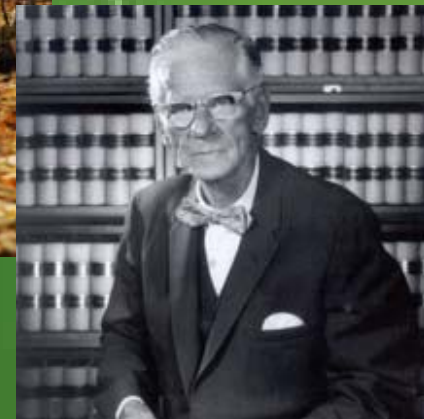
The Letter to Thyatira
18 "To the angel of the church
write:
"The Son of God, the One wh
a fiery flame, and whose feet
says: 19 I know your works-
ness, b service, and endurance. Your last w
are greater than the first. 20 But I ha
against you: you tolerate the woman
us herself a prophetess, and
to commit v



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4. *Live daily with the hope of the coming of the Morning Star.*



George Allen, Sr. (1885-1972)
A Virginia state senator from 1916 to 1920

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4. Live daily with the hope of the coming of the Morning Star.

KEEPING KIDS
CONNECTED TO
THE CHURCH

peanut butter & grace
Catholic family life, sweet and simple.

A Few Proposals

1. **Model the faith for your kids**
2. **Practice the faith in the fabric of family life**
3. **Nurture kids' relationship with God**
4. **Talk with kids about stuff that matters**
5. **Tackle the tough issues**
6. **Offer many paths to practice the faith**
7. **Help them forge faith-based friendships**

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