

The Intolerable Sin



of the Bible Church

The Church at Ephesus



- ❧ A History of Rich Teaching and Strong Leadership
 - *Paul spent three years there (Acts 20:31)*
 - *Timothy was their Pastor for many years*
 - *John was there in his later years*

The Church at Ephesus



☞ A Focus on Solid Doctrine

- *Paul's Challenge (Acts 20:28-30a)*

"Be on guard...after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be on the alert..."

The Church at Ephesus



☞ A Focus on Solid Doctrine

- *Paul's Challenge (Acts 20:28-30a)*
- *No doctrinal problems 7 years later when Paul wrote Ephesians*

The Church at Ephesus



- ☞ A Significant Problem in the Church
 - *Another letter written to Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7)*

*"But this I have against you.
You have left your first love."*

The Intolerable Sin of the Bible Church



We have left our first love.

Symptoms of Leaving Your First Love



- ❧ You Lose the Joy of the Christian Life
- ❧ You Lose the Ability to Love Others
- ❧ You Lose a Right Perspective of Self

How to Recover



- ❧ Revelation 2:5
 - Remember *from where you fell*
 - Repent
 - Return *to the things you did at first*

Chelsea Bible Church



Vision Statement

Our Vision



The vision of Chelsea Bible Church is to glorify God by equipping believers for godly living, reaching our world with the gospel, and changing our community with the love of Christ.

Elements of the Vision



1. Equipping Believers for Godly Living

- ✧ Applying the Principles of God's Word
- ✧ Enjoying Fellowship with a Community of Believers
- ✧ Serving According to Giftedness

Elements of the Vision



2. Reaching Our World with the Gospel

- ✧ Supporting the Work of Missionaries
- ✧ Partnering with Parachurch Organizations
- ✧ Sharing the Gospel in our Circle of Influence

Elements of the Vision



3. Changing Our Community with the Love of Christ

- ❧ Practicing Servant Evangelism
- ❧ Becoming Participants in the Chelsea Community

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