

LifeGroup Shepherd Guide

September 27th – Revelation of Jesus Christ

This guide is designed to help you prepare for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

Why do you think Christians are so fearful when talking about end times? If not fearful, then why do you think most avoid talking about it or reading about it?

Digging In**Read Revelation 1:1-8**

Pastor Jeff gave 9 different points about the overall purpose of the Book of Revelation.

1. **Not to conceal but to reveal.**
2. **Not to show judgments, but Jesus.**
3. **Not for the sinner, but the servant (saints)**
4. **Not as a puzzle, but with pictures.**
5. **Not to educate but to encourage**
6. **Not to procrastinate but to prepare**
7. **Not to worry but to worship**
8. **Not to fear, but to faith**
9. **Not live in defeat, but in victory**

Question 1:

Which of Pastor Jeff's points about the Book of Revelation stood out to you the most? Why?

Question 2:

Pastor Jeff talked about the 1st advent and 2nd advent of Jesus. The Book of Revelation reveals Jesus in His 2nd coming – and shows a different picture of Jesus than in the Gospels. How do some of these different images of Jesus change your perspective of who Jesus is? Why does it matter to see Jesus in both of these ways?

John 1:29	----	Revelation 5:1-5
Lamb		Lion

Luke 2:6-7	----	Revelation 4:8-11
Humble		Exalted

Mark 10:45	----	Revelation 1:5
Servant		King

Do any of these images of Jesus surprise you?

Question 3:

One of Pastor Jeff's points was: **Not to worry but to worship.**

How do the end times often lead you to worry? Or to phrase it another way, are there events that are happening in our world right now that lead you to worry more than lead you to worship?

Question 4:

One of Pastor Jeff's points was: **Not to fear, but to faith.**

Some of the things told in the book of Revelation sound very scary. What typically brings about fear for you when talking about end times, the book of Revelation, or Judgement Day?

Question 5:

Pastor Jeff's last point was: **Not live in defeat, but in Victory.**

With the way our world looks right now, it's easy to feel defeated about certain things. Whether it's terrible things happening around the world in the news or personal things happening in your own life, it can feel defeating. **Read Revelation 1:8** again. How does Jesus being the "Alpha and Omega, the Almighty" give you God's perspective when you feel defeated? Why does this matter?

Taking it Home

The tendency of many people when studying Revelation is to make it an academic exercise. But the book of Revelation wasn't merely given to us as a lesson – it was supposed to lead to a lifestyle.

What practical ways will your lifestyle be changed this week in light of what you learned about Revelation?

- Worship instead of Worry
- Faith instead of Fear
- Victory instead of Defeat.

Praise / Prayer Requests

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