

LifeGroup Study Sheet

Nov 22nd– Revelation of Jesus Christ – Part 9

This guide is designed to help in preparing 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

At the beginning of this series, Jeff had us look at Revelation 1:19 to get an idea of how this book is outlined and to give us a perspective on how to understand it.

Revelation 1:19 –

“Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.”

John is now beginning the third section of this outline after chapters 1, 2, and 3. Chapter 4 begins the section: “what will take place later.” (**Revelation 4:1**)

Take some time to read some other places in Scripture that describe what heaven is like:

- **Isaiah 6:1-8**
- **Ezekiel 1**

There are certain things that God makes clear to us about what heaven is like – and there are other things that are not so clear. **Discuss the following statement** from Charles Spurgeon about our understanding of what heaven is like as followers of Jesus.

“It is very little that we can know of the future state (heaven), but we may be quite sure that we know as much as is good for us. We ought to be as content with that which is not revealed as with that which is. If God wills us not to know, we ought to be satisfied not to know. Depend on it, he has told us all about heaven that is necessary to bring us there; and if he had revealed more, it would have served rather for the gratification of our curiosity than for the increase of our grace.”

Digging In**Read Revelation 4:1-11**

Question 1: The first thing that John saw when he was given a vision about heaven was the throne of God. It was the centerpiece of John's vision, the throne of God and who was sitting on it. (**4:2-3**) John's description of the throne had a rainbow surrounding it. Pastor Jeff reminded us that the biblical significance of a rainbow was to remind of God's faithfulness and commitment to His promises.

Read some of the promises God has made to His people:

Genesis 9:11-17

Isaiah 41:10

Deuteronomy 31:8

John 16:33

Hebrews 6:13

How does God need to remind you of His promises to you as a Christ follower today? What is overtaking your trust in those promises today?

Question 2: John describes the four living creatures that were surrounding the throne of God (**Rev 4:6-8**). They were worshipping God on his throne, and making his holiness central to their worship. Why do you think they repeated over and over that God was holy?

Read Isaiah 6:1-8

What does Isaiah's response to seeing God's holiness tell you about God' perfection? How does dwelling on God's holiness show you your own "uncleanliness?"

Question 3: The 24 elders "cast their crowns before the throne" (**Rev 4:10**) What is the purpose of a crown (**2 Tim 4:8**)? What does the action of casting their crowns before the throne symbolize? As a Christ follower – how do you see this passage as it relates to how you worship Jesus? Does your worship of God ever reflect the way that these elders are worshipping God? What often holds you back from seeing God was worthy of this type of worship?

Question 4: This passage shows the elders and the 4 living creatures worshipping God in the throne room of heaven. There are some specific examples of worship in Revelation 4 - giving, praying, singing, and obeying. Which of these actions of worship are most missing in your life today? What is one thing you can do this week to change that?

Taking it Home

The way Revelation 4 ends - God is being praised (**Rev 4:11**)

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Read Colossians 1:16-17 - Isaiah 40:25-28 – Romans 11:36

How do you need to be reminded today of God deserving all your glory, honor and power? How do you need to recognize all the things God has created for you in your life now, and in the life to come? How does that make you worship Jesus today?

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?