



Before the Lesson

Read the Scripture and overview below before your LIFE Group meets.

Scripture passages: Revelation 1

Have you ever read a good novel, and after a few pages in flipped to the very end to see how things were going to turn out? You simply had to see the “happily ever after,” find out which characters survived, or know if the hero or heroine’s destiny would turn out the way you hoped. The final chapter of a book is generally the place where all the i’s are dotted and t’s are crossed. It’s the place of resolution, where all of the tensions woven within the storyline make their final curtain call and all of the mysteries are uncovered and revealed.

The Bible has an unveiling much like that in its final pages. The book of Revelation is the dispensing of the mystery and the unveiling of what is to come. Within the last pages of the Word of God, we see God’s final, complete, and perfect plan and provision unfold. All is resolved and all things are made new. In short, Jesus wins, and believers are given the joy of joining Him in His glorious Kingdom forever. Amen!

Focus question:

What is your response to the revelation of Jesus Christ?

Group Discussion

- Read Revelation 1:1-3. What do you learn about the book of Revelation from these verses?
- Why do you think reading Revelation would bless a person? (Revelation 1:3)
- Read Revelation 1:4-8. What do you learn about Jesus from this passage?
- How would you explain that Jesus is Alpha and Omega to someone? (Use verses from Genesis, John 1 and other portions of Scripture to help you.)
- The words used to describe Jesus in these verses tell us much about His character. What do you learn from Revelation 1:4-8 and Colossians 1:15-20 about Jesus? How does this change or focus your worship?
- Read Genesis 3:15, Hebrews 2:14, and Revelation 1:17b-18. How did Jesus fulfill His promise to destroy the one who has the power of death? Even though you know Jesus and have been made alive and free, is there some area of bondage that still enslaves you? How could your knowledge of Jesus, His attributes, and promises help you break free?

- War and conflict will be a part of the last things, so it is important to be aware of what is to come. Read Matthew 24:6-14 and discuss the climate and context described in these verses.
- Adrian Rogers said, “When I see things like cloning come to pass they do not shake me. Sometimes they grieve me or sadden me, but they do not shake me because I know God’s Word. I know it is the fulfillment of prophecy, and I can say with all of the saints, ‘Praise God! It’s getting gloriously dark.’” Read Luke 21:28 and discuss how uncovering the mysteries associated with the last things can bring you comfort and peace.
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 1:10, Colossians 1:20, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, and Revelation 21:5. Talk about the reality of new life believers have in light of the first coming of Christ and the hope they have of His second coming when He will restore all things.
- Have you found yourself in a place of exile or isolation? Talk about the Apostle John and the isolation he was in. How did God meet him in his place of seclusion and desolation? (Revelation 1:9-11)
- How does reading Revelation cause you to apply discipline to your life so you are ready for Christ’s return? Is there some indulgence or habit that you have become accustomed to that you should turn over to God so you can better prepare your heart for His return? (Luke 12:35-48)
- Hell is a reality for those who do not know Jesus. What has the Lord asked you to do for Him that you have not obeyed? Will you prepare yourself and take action? (See Matthew 24:36-44 and Acts 1:8.)
- In the beginning God called to Adam in the garden asking, “Where are you?” In Revelation, Jesus calls out, “Come, take the water of life freely.” What is He calling out to you today?

Further Study (to be used in your personal Quiet Time)

Read Revelation 21-22 and praise God for the rule, reign, and return of His Son, Jesus.

Joshua Code memory verse:

Jesus wept. – John 11:35

Family Time

Take time to recap our Epic Events of the Bible series with your children this week. Ask them questions and see what they remember about our journey through the main stories of the Bible. Remind them that Jesus can be seen in the beginning at Creation in Genesis, is at the end of the Bible in Revelation, and is everywhere in between. Teach them Revelation 22:13 which says, “*I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.*” Remind your children that God always keeps His promises and is always faithful.



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