

Introducing The Apocalypse WEEK 1 DISCUSSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

In this message of *Is This The End?*, we will begin a seven-week journey into the book of Revelation. This will be a fun, impactful, and intriguing study. We will learn about the profound mysteries, examine the rich symbolism, unpack the powerful predictions, and visualize the vivid imagery of this fascinating book of the Bible.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Both novice and experienced Christians can feel a sense of fear and anxiety when reading the book of Revelation. One goal of this series is to grow our understanding and to shift our view of what this book reveals to us. By the end of these seven weeks, we will be able to see the book of Revelation with faith, comfort, and hope.

- When you hear the term "end times," how do you feel?
- What are your thoughts about the book of Revelation?

Why study the book of Revelation?

<u>Preparation</u> - This book gives us faith and equips us with the understanding of things to come so that we can encourage others.

<u>Perspective</u> - There's a blessing in reading and hearing the words contained in Revelation. **Revelation 1:3** says, Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

<u>Peace</u> - As we become prepared and have the proper perspective, we will be empowered to walk in supernatural peace. No matter the circumstances around us, we will remember that Jesus is in control.

The true hero of the book of Revelation is Jesus, so we will focus on Him.

Who is Jesus?

1. He is the <u>Truth</u>.

In John 14:6, Jesus says, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."* Many things can shift or change. Jesus does not. He's even surer than a compass showing us which way is north. Jesus alone is the truth.

- Why is Jesus the Truth?
- How does knowing Jesus is the Truth comfort you?
- 2. He is the <u>Life</u>.

Jesus was the first to be raised to life from the dead—never to die again. He did what no other has ever done... He defeated death. He *is* Life.

3. He is the <u>King of kings</u>.

Jesus reigns supreme. Philippians 2:10-11 says, that at the name of Jesus <u>every</u> knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. He is the ruler of the kings of the earth (Revelation 1:5).

What is Jesus doing?

1. He's <u>loving</u> us.

Think of the strongest and most powerful time you have ever loved or been loved. The power of God's love is even stronger than that!

- How can we show the love of Christ to others?
- He's setting us <u>free</u>. Mental or physical bondage and claims of sin are broken by Jesus. His perfection covers us.
- 3. He's giving us a new position and purpose.
 - What do you believe your new position and purpose is right now?

What should we do?

1. Do not fear.

Jesus' encouragement is clear in **Revelation 1:17:** ...But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last."

2. <u>Resist</u> conformity.

Romans 12:2 says, *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.* The ways of this world are shifting and passing away, but the way of Jesus and the kingdom of God lasts forever.

What can we do to resist conformity?

LIFE CHALLENGE

Read **chapter 1** of **Revelation**. Before reading, say a prayer that you will view the information with a peaceful heart and open eyes.

PRAYER REQUESTS & CLOSE IN PRAYER