

2022 Community Groups

WEEKLY GUIDE

Feb 20 - Community Guide

This week we return to the book of Revelation as Pastor Aaron begins the final chapter in the sermon series. Here, the focus is on the final battle where Satan is defeated and Jesus is victorious; what an amazing opportunity to raise a "Hallelujah!"

Community Prayer:

Lord, we invite you to guide our time together as we dig into your word and share with each other. More than anything, we ask that you would be with us and would help us to see you more clearly through this time of study. All these things we ask In Jesus' name, Amen

Opening Questions:

1. If you watched the Super Bowl, what was your favorite moment? (It's OK if it was a commercial...)
2. Now that the Super Bowl is done, what is the next fun gathering you are looking forward to?

Exploration:

Revelation 19:1-8

Hallelujah means "You praise God" - This is the only time in the New Testament that the word "Hallelujah" is used, and we see it 4 times in the next few verses. The response to all that John is seeing through this vision is clearly filled with praise!

4 Reasons for "Hallelujah"

- Just and true are his judgments - Verse 2
- God has avenged the blood of his servants - Verse 2-3
- For our Lord God Almighty reigns - Verse 6
- For the wedding of the Lamb has come - Verse 7

3. What is something God is doing in your life that is worthy of a "Hallelujah"?

Revelation 19:9

4. Why do you think it was so important for the angel to tell John, "Write this..."?



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Marriage was the single greatest celebration and social event in the ancient world. Being included as a wedding guest was a tremendous blessing and honor at that time.

“Theologians down through the ages have always seen the promises made at a wedding, promises of faithfulness through thick and thin, as a proper reflection of God’s promises to his world, to the human race, and to his own people in particular.” NT Wright

Revelation 19:10

John was passionate. John was overflowing with energy and emotion. John was eager. But John was also wrong! John was off a bit. His focus wasn’t in the right place or on the right person. The angel had to correct him and remind him where to focus his attention.

5. What do you think about when you read that John needed to be corrected when his focus was on the wrong thing?
6. Are there any times you can identify in your spiritual walk where your focus has been on the wrong things? If so, talk about that and how you could refocus on the right things.

Revelation 19:11-13

In Revelation, there are many times where John is commanded to “look” or “behold”.

In this vision, when heaven is opened what does John see? He sees Jesus!

We, like John, are commanded to look. We are not commanded first to go, or to be brave or to witness but to look! If we don’t stop to see Jesus for who he really is, then all of our activity will be off-center.

7. Is there anything in John’s vision of Jesus that surprises you or captures your imagination? If so, what is it, and why?
8. What are the things in your life that distract your focus from Jesus?
9. What are some ways that you recenter your focus on Jesus?

Revelation 19:19-21

The battle we see here is **not** the most epic battle ever seen, it is not Hollywood quality, it's over before it starts. No one on the winning team gets bloody and beaten, they don’t even lift a finger.



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The beast and the false prophet are captured and thrown alive into the lake of burning sulfur. The rest of the army was killed by the sword coming out of the mouth of the rider on the horse.

In just 3 verses, the biggest battle the world has ever faced seems to start and finish.

10. What is one battle in your life that you wish God would just eliminate?
11. What are you learning about yourself as you continue to face that battle?

Revelation 20:11-15

12. What stands out as you read this passage?
13. If you could retell this passage, how would you describe what it is saying?

Matthew 12: 36 But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

"Deeds reveal values. Deeds reveal character. Deeds reveal our true allegiance. And deeds reveal what we really believe." Darrel Johnson

The names of every single person who has believed and followed Jesus Christ will be found in the Lamb's Book of Life. This is not a book you get your name into by doing a bunch of good things., You can't buy your way into it. You are not born into it because of where you come from or who raised you. Your name gets into this book only one way: through faith in Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."

God is doing everything he can to make sure every single person has an opportunity to turn to him, to surrender their lives. However, the story we read in Revelation is that no matter how loving, no matter how patient, no matter how much grace God gives, some people still decide they would rather go their own way than God's way... so eventually God says, "OK", but that does not have to be the case for you today. The invitation is open to you, you simply need to put your faith in Jesus and ask Him for the gift of life!



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The Takeaway:

God is doing everything he can to make sure every single person has an opportunity to turn to him, to surrender their lives.

Before you go any further, take a moment to ask yourself and to ask God if your life truly reflects a vibrant faith in Jesus. If the answer is no, simply be honest with God and receive the free gift of grace offered to you through Jesus.

A Time For Celebration!

- Spend some time together celebrating that your name is in the Lamb's Book of Life!
- Spend some time together sharing the names of those in your life that have not yet put their faith in Jesus that they too would choose to put their faith and hope in Jesus.
- Pray together that God would help you share your faith boldly so that others can know Jesus.

Prayer Requests

