



Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide: Revelation Wk2: November 22, 2020

Recap:

- In New Testament times, Caesar was the center of power and the persecution Christians faced. They were seduced by this power and the temptation to give up their faith in light of seemingly hopelessness of their experience. John, the author of Revelation, gives them and us an alternative: to see that the powers of this world are parodies, imitation copies, of the ruler of heaven and earth. John invites us to see that all power pales in comparison to the greatness and goodness of God.
- John says that heaven is right here before us, behind us, beside us, and within us. This reality intersects our own as we choose to see it, to believe in it, and to live the way of heaven in our world today through the language of heaven: grace, peace, love, and mercy.
- God has been working to bring this reality into existence. The only one is worthy of bringing that plan into our world is Jesus. For so many of us, we've been invited to hear about Jesus, to listen to the teaching of Jesus, to follow Jesus, but there is more: to worship Jesus and recognize our savior who died on the cross, rose again, and brought new life into this world. Many people, ideas, or empires claim to be worthy of our worship, but they are a sad imitation of Jesus.

Discuss:

1. Read Revelation 3:22
2. How do you view the inspiration of the Spirit and God speaking to us today? How do you see it happening? When does it happen?
3. Do you find listening to the Spirit to be difficult, easy?
4. Do you think the Spirit speaks during worship?
5. Read Revelation 4:1-11
6. Do you think that animals and other creatures are capable of worshipping God?
7. What has been your experience with worship in life? Have your thoughts changed over the years?
8. How does the picture of worship in Revelation look differently from how we tend to worship?
9. Read Revelation 5:11-14
10. What would be your reaction to such a sight?
11. How do you feel about the intersection of Heaven and Earth in worship and in our daily lives?

Read at Home: Verses about Worship

- Psalm 96
- Romans 12:1-2
- John 4:7-26