

NOTES & QUESTIONS

HOW (NOT) TO READ REVELATION

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REVELATION 1:1-11

Not _____, but _____

Not _____, but _____

Not _____, but _____

Not _____, but _____

No _____, but _____

Not _____, but _____

Not _____, but _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

ICEBREAKER: What's your favorite movie, book, or show about the end of the world?

1. What is your experience with the book of Revelation in the past? What primary feelings do you associate with the book?
2. Read Revelation 1:1-11 out loud. Give the group a couple minutes in silence to jot down their observations and questions. Go around the group and have each person share something they saw in the passage.
3. The book of Revelation is not primarily about the future or current events. It is primarily about Jesus. Identify all the different ways this passage describes Jesus (who he is, what has done, his titles, etc.) and explain what those things mean.
4. According to this passage, who was the original audience the book of Revelation was written to. What do you know about these people (either from the sermon, the intro in a good study Bible, or the Bible Project video on Revelation)?
5. In the sermon, Clayton said that the book of Revelation is not just about the future, but also about events that are already past and about things going on in the present. How do you think this will change how you approach Revelation?
6. What is the difference between something being literal and something being true? How does that difference help when reading the book of Revelation?
7. In verse 7, John quotes two different Old Testament books. There are more references to the Old Testament in the book of Revelation than any other book in the New Testament. Why is this important? When you come across an Old Testament reference in Revelation, what will you do to try and understand it?
8. Read verse 3. In what way is someone "blessed" by "reading," "hearing," and "taking to heart" the words of Revelation?
9. Why should the book of Revelation inspire hope, not fear?

PRAYER PROMPT: Have each person pick one of the titles or descriptions of Jesus in this passage and pray a prayer of praise to Jesus for who he is.