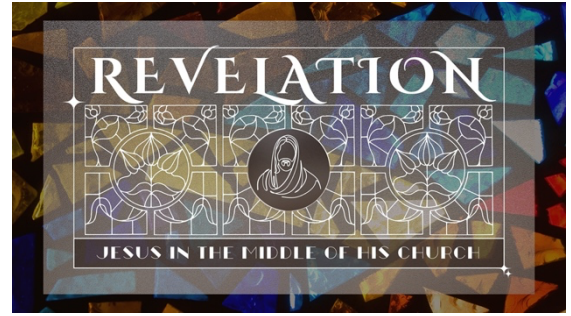


# REVELATION

## JESUS IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS CHURCH



### The Cosmic King

#### Big Idea:

We stop being afraid when we look at the risen Jesus.

#### Opening Questions:

What is your favorite apocalyptic movie, literature or TV series?  
(*Apocalyptic means the end of the world*)

Why do you think people keep creating stories about the end of the world?

In this series we will take a look at the book of Revelation, the last book of the Bible. It is called Revelation because it is a *revelation from Jesus Christ* (Revelation 1:1).

1. What has been your experience with the book of Revelation?

#### READ Revelation 1:9-18

2. What comes to mind when you read these verses? What questions do you have?

John, a follower and close friend of Jesus, had a vision long after Jesus had left the earth. The vision was of the resurrected Christ coming to him with a message to 7 churches. The message to these churches are a message for all Churches for all time. In the following weeks of this series we will look at the specific messages to each of the churches and find out what Jesus might be saying to us.

3. What do you remember from Sunday's message about what the following images might represent?
  - a. 7 golden lampstands
  - b. Son of man
  - c. Golden sash
  - d. White hair
  - e. Eyes like blazing fire
  - f. Feet like bronze
  - g. Voice like rushing waters
  - h. 7 stars in his right hand
  - i. Double edged sword coming out of his mouth
  - j. Face like shining sun

4. In what ways might these images make us feel fear? In what ways might they make us feel comforted?

The resurrected Jesus says: "**Do not be afraid**. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now **look**, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades."

5. What does it mean for Jesus to be the First and the Last?
6. What does it mean for Jesus to hold the keys to death and Hades?

Jesus has two messages for us in this passage:

- Do not be afraid
- Look

7. Practically, what does it mean to not be afraid because of Jesus' resurrection? How do we practically live this out in our everyday lives? Give an example.
8. Again, practically, what does it mean to look at Jesus instead of looking at our fear?

## **MICRO GROUP**

Get into smaller micro-groups of 3 or 4 for the remainder of this discussion guide. Keep these same micro groups throughout this series.

9. What is something you are most afraid of at this season of your life? Share a plan to look at Jesus instead of your fear this week.

Pray for each other.

## **H2O – Habits to Outcome**

Spiritual habits (Bible engagement, prayer, community, journaling, serving, sabbath, silence and solitude, etc.) help us to encounter Jesus. Every encounter with Jesus has the potential for **Character Transformation\*** and **Calling Activation\***. This series will focus on the spiritual habit of **Obedience to Jesus**.

### **Challenge:**

Practice listening to God and doing what he says. Set aside a few minutes a day to sit in silence and ask God to show you something he wants you to know and or do.

\***Character Transformation** means that your character is demonstrating the fruits of the Spirit as you become more like Jesus. (Galatians 5:22-23)

\***Calling Activation** means that you are living out your primary calling as a disciple maker. (Matthew 28:19-20)