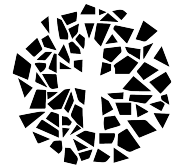


# Tough and Tender: Developing Resilience for Life

REVELATION 5:1-14

Community Group Study Guide  
Week of September 15th, 2019



**MOSAIC BOSTON**  
LOVE. JESUS. SIMPLE.

This week we looked at Revelation 5 and the Theology of Jesus being both Lion and Lamb. Jesus is both tough and tender. In verse 5 John is told not to weep, and “behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah” and when he looked at the lion what he saw was “a Lamb, standing, as though it had been slain”. We serve a God that is confident and powerful, while being loving and graceful; choosing to serve us by humbly dying on the cross for us, and powerfully defeating sin and death.

Our tendency is to lean to one side or the other; living life tough and calloused while neglecting to humbly love others, or being tender and kind while letting the world hurt us or bring down our faith. As human beings created in the image of God, we are called to look at the example of Jesus Christ to model how we are to live. Confident that we are saved by the sacrifice of the perfect Lamb, and humbly using that confidence to usher in redemption to creation.

The best way for us to grow in following Christ’s example is through worship. In Revelation, when the Lamb had taken the scroll, the elders began to sing “a new song saying, ‘Worthy’...”. True worship is recognizing the truth of who God is and declaring Him worthy of all honor and all praise. As we worship Christ, our focus is taken off of ourselves, and placed on Him. Pastor Jan quoted G.K. Beale, pointing out that “What people revere, they resemble, either for ruin or restoration”. Worshiping Christ leads to genuine humility, where we think of ourselves less and think of others first. Jesus honored John the Baptist as the greatest man to ever live because of his humility. John said “He (Jesus) must increase, but I must decrease”. This understanding leads us to being both priests and kings. Ministering with the gospel of Jesus Christ to the people around us and submitting all of creation to the sovereignty of Christ.

## **DISCUSSION GOALS**

### **Head**

To understand that the Church is one body and recognize what role each of us has in the body.

### **Heart**

To love the role God has given you in the church, and to love those different than you for the value God has given them to the body.

### **Hands**

To use our gifts to support the body, to spread the Gospel, and to bestow honor on other members of the body.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Membership or Baptism:**

Contact  
[admin@mosaicboston.com](mailto:admin@mosaicboston.com) to sign up for our next membership class or learn more about baptism.

### **Mosaic JP:**

Please keep Mosaic JP and other faithful Boston church plants in your prayers. If your CG would like to serve Mosaic JP together on a Sunday please contact  
[andy@mosaicboston.com](mailto:andy@mosaicboston.com).

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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### Read Revelation 5:1-14

- At the center of this “Tough and Tender” series is a theology of Jesus as the Lion and the Lamb. Why is it vital to understand this theology before discussing the practical?
- Why is Jesus the only one worthy to take the scroll in Revelation 5? Why does this lead to John being told to “weep no more” and the elders singing “a new song”?
- After this chapter, Jesus is only referred to as the “Lamb” in the book of Revelation, even when he is coming in power and might. How can this inform our understanding of power and authority, and what it is meant to look like?
- Pastor Jan pointed out that we have a tendency to be either tough, or tender, but not both. Which do you tend to the most, and how does Christ’s example challenge you to be both?
- What is genuine worship? How does it lead to transformation in our lives?
- Pastor Jan stated, “the opposite of Christianity isn’t atheism, it’s idolatry”. Why is this true? What do you struggle with worshipping instead of Christ?
- Why does Jesus describe John the Baptist as the greatest man to live?
- We are called to be both Priests and Kings. What does it mean to be a Priest? What does it mean to be a King?
- What other comments or questions did you have about the text or sermon? Was there anything else that really stood out, convicted, challenged or encouraged you?