



REVELATION

GOD IS IN CONTROL OF ALL THINGS

FAMILY CONVERSATION GUIDE

THE THEME

God is in control of all things.

MARCH MEMORY VERSE

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”

Colossians 4:2 NIV

MARCH CHALLENGE VERSE

“Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever.”

Hebrews 1:8 NIV

MARCH 3 - LIFE APPLICATION

We need to trust that God has a plan for us.

NOTE TO PARENTS

Scripture: **Revelation 6:1-8**

In the **Book of Revelation**, John, the disciple loved by Jesus, is given words and visions of heaven and Jesus, and prophecies about the End of Times. Remind your family that **God has a plan**, is over all things, knows all things, and He is with us through all things. Please read the scripture and listen to the sermon, in person or online, before discussing with your family. If this guide is too much to cover in one sitting, break it up and talk through the questions throughout the week.

In this week's message we will look at **Revelation 6:1-8**. Jesus the Lamb is opening the seven seals, and in our study this week we learned about the **first four seals**.

Before talking with your family, pray with them. These things are not always easy to understand, but pray that God would reveal what He wants us to know and that we would learn, more than anything, that He loves those who love and follow Him. So, even though bad things will happen in the world and we are able to know about them, we will not have to worry. God has a plan to take us to heaven to be with Him before all of this even happens! It is called the Rapture. Therefore, Christians and their believing kids should never have to worry about what we are about to look at.

DISCUSS:

Review: In **Revelation 5**, John is in the throne room of heaven, and God the Father is seated on the throne. **What did He have in His right hand?** (*He had a scroll sealed with seven seals.*) Then, a mighty angel made a proclamation. (Read it out loud with a powerful voice) **"Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?"** (*No one in heaven or earth or under the earth is worthy.*) **Who was able to receive the scroll from the hands of God the Father and break the seals?** (*Jesus, the Lamb whose life was given for us, to redeem us from our sins. Only He is worthy!*)

1. Ask your children: **Why do you think parents need to discipline their children when they have disobeyed and have done wrong things?** (*Let everyone have a chance to give their thoughts.*) Parents love their children so much that they want them to learn not to make mistakes that will hurt them or others. God also disciplines us when we sin, or disobey Him. When we disobey our parents or God, we are disciplined because they love us, and want what is best for us. They want us to learn to do the right things, not wrong things.
2. In the **Book of Revelation**, we learn that God has a plan to overcome the evil

in this world and to win the battle with Satan, establishing a new world with Jesus as the ruler. And we will get to see it after all of these things happen! **How does that make you feel? Can you imagine a world without sin, with peace and love and a perfect place to live?** That is God's plan. But first, some hard things will happen - after those of us who love Jesus are taken (raptured) to be with Him! See the promise in **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**.

3. John writes about what will happen next. When the Lamb opens the first four seals, there will be four horses with riders who have different purposes:
 - **When Jesus the Lamb opened the first seal, we learned about what horse?** (See **Revelation 6:1,2**.) It was a white horse, and its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him. His job was to CONQUER. He is the Antichrist. He seems to come in peace (a bow without arrows), and he has answers to many of the world's problems. People think he is good, and though he comes in peace, it will not last. He will rule 3 ½ years over the entire world. And, he is a liar. He will say many things that people believe that are NOT true.
 - Next, after the second seal is opened in **verses 3 and 4**, another horse comes. **What color is the horse?** (Red.) **What does the rider do?** (He is permitted to take peace from the world. He is given a great sword and he brings fighting among people and much destruction. This is the end of the first 3 ½ years of peace.) The second 3 ½ years of God's judgment has now begun.
 - In **verses 5 and 6**, the third seal is opened. **What color is the horse?** (Black) There will be a FAMINE after the wars (*that were brought by the red horse and its rider, who had a pair of scales in his hand.*) Scales are used to weigh food, and food will be scarce and expensive if you can find it. **What is a famine?** (*There is a shortage of food in the world. Many people will starve, especially the poor.*)
 - Next, the fourth seal is opened. **What color is the horse?** (Pale, without color.) **What is the rider?** His name is Death, and Hades follows him. They are given a quarter, or 1/4th of the earth, and many will be killed with famine, pestilence (diseases) and the wild beasts.
4. Wow. That's a lot! Remember, these things have to happen in order for God to rid the earth of sin and evil people and defeat the devil who brought all of the evil into the world. But during this time, we need to remember that many people who did not know Jesus before will repent and follow Him. Their hard hearts will finally be broken and they will choose Jesus. They will be saved and they will be a part of God's family forever! That's the good news!

FAMILY CHALLENGE

1. It's important to remember that those who love Jesus will not have to suffer from all of these things. Once you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, he took your sins when He died on the cross and He provided the way for you to be forgiven and live forever with Him in heaven! It's called the Rapture! Ask your family if they have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. If anyone wants to do so, this is a simple way for kids to understand:
 - **It's as easy as ABC!** It could be that your child is ready to make this big step but not sure how. You can have the blessing of praying with them! For children, the A-B-C method works well: They **Admit** that they are a sinner and that they have done wrong things, they **Believe** that Jesus came to earth to die for their sins, and they **Choose** to accept His free gift of salvation.
 - **It's done!** You may want to explain to your child that once they have received Jesus' gift of salvation they don't have to do it over and over again. It's a done deal, and Jesus did it for them. He will always be there for them, forever - and they will always be a part of God's family!
2. But that's not all! Jesus has an important assignment for all of us. Now that we know about what will happen one day, we also know that those who are not saved before the Rapture will have to suffer. And we don't want that. So, it's important for us to tell others about Jesus! Have each person in your family think of someone they know who can be their +One. Someone they can pour into, pray for regularly, be a good friend with, and can show the love of Jesus to them. And, invite them to church and events for their age group. It could take years, but the day will come when they are ready to accept Him into their hearts and be in His family with you forever!

PRAYER

Dear Jesus: It's hard to understand all the things that will happen in this world before You come back. But, we trust that You are with us and that You will show us what You want us to do. Help us to see people around us who need to know You. In Your Name we pray, Amen.