



---

## **REVELATION 1:17-18**

---

### **GETTING STARTED...**

Happy Easter! He is Risen! He is Risen indeed! This refrain has been part of the tradition of the church for a very long time and for good reason. We remind one another in the church of the truth of the resurrection of Jesus. This is the most central teaching of the church, all of Christianity hangs on this one truth, that Jesus died and rose again. So much so that Paul would write in 1 Corinthians 15 that if Jesus didn't rise, everything else we do is worthless. So this is a good reason to celebrate and remind one another of the truth of the resurrection. It is so important it becomes how John describes seeing Jesus in the book of Revelation over and over again. In the first chapter as we first see Jesus, Jesus himself reminds John that he has risen from the dead and that death will no longer have any hold over him. This is the reason we rejoice at Easter, death has lost the war!

### **READ THE TEXT: REVELATION 1:17-18**

---

<sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup> and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORD**

1. Why does John fall at his feet as though dead? Look through the previous verses and see the picture of Jesus that is described.
2. "Fear not" is a common thing that Jesus tells people, but what are the reasons given in this passage for why he should not fear? How does each description take away our fear?

## REFLECTING ON THE SERMON

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

## APPLYING THE POINT

5. How do we put this into practice?

*Agassiz* Read all of Revelation 1. What do you understand about Jesus based on the vision of Him that John saw? How do you view Jesus? What is meant by "his right hand" and how have you experienced His touch in your life? How have His words in vv.17b-18 shaped: (1) Your understanding of His nature and character; (2) The way you live?

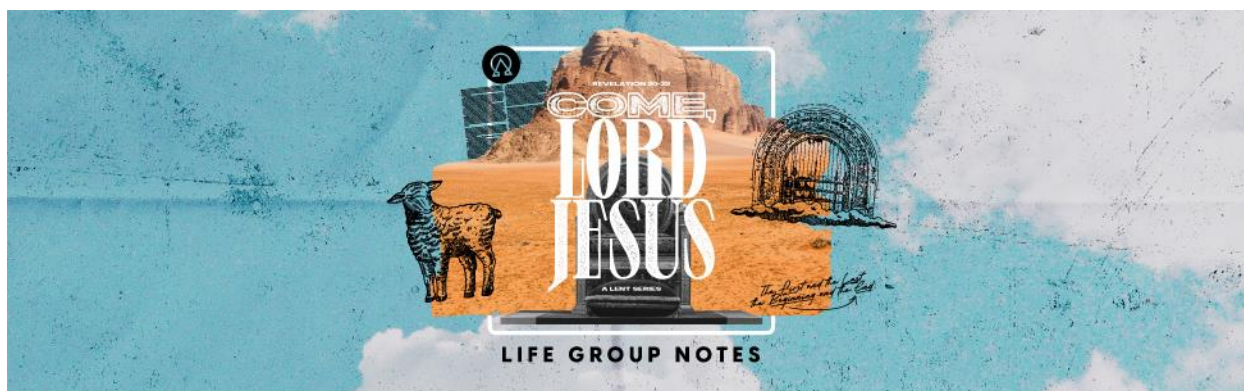
*Chilliwack* When we see Jesus accurately, we fall at His feet (Isa. 6:1-5; Dan. 10:8-9; Rev. 1:17). What about the descriptions of the power and love of Jesus in verses 17-18 quench fear and prompt worship?

*Harrison & Lake Errock* John spends considerable time describing the appearance of Jesus in Revelation 1:12-16. How would you describe the glory of God in the risen, exalted Christ? After Jesus appears to John, he comforts the fainting disciple. How does Jesus' authority over death grant you comfort by dispelling your fears?

*Promontory* In what way should we fear God and not fear God? How does the reality of Jesus being alive today make a difference to us? How does Jesus having authority over death change how we live?

## PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer? An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



## How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Central Life Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Life Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Life Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word, Reflecting on the Sermon, and Applying the Point.* We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

While the meaning of a text doesn't change, the way that we are called to apply it may look different from campus to campus, and even person to person. To reflect this distinction, you will see application questions from each campus in this guide. Start with the question(s) from your campus and then look at others to see if they are helpful for your group. You may be surprised how similar or different they end up being and how the diversity brings a fuller understanding to how we can apply the Word of God.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*“Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.” - Psalm 111:2*