

Message Based Questions 1/31/21

Reframe Reality – Part 2

Icebreaker: What is your favorite concert that you have been to? What made it great?

Discussion Questions

- What do you think is competing for our allegiance? Where do you see God's Empire breaking out in today's world?

Discuss the quote:

"In particular, there is work to be done to rescue the creation from the deadly dangers that have taken root within it. There is work to be done to overthrow the forces that are out to destroy the very handiwork of God! It will be a terrible task, and one might shrink from it in itself. But of course we have made it worse by being, ourselves, part of the problem, rather than part of the solution."

NT Wright, *Revelation for Everyone*

- The lion is the symbol of ultimate power and supreme royalty, image of lion! While the lamb symbolizes both gentle vulnerability and sacrifice. The ultimate in weakness and death! (Image of slain lamb)
- The image of the slain lamb draws on both the Passover lamb (Exodus 12) and the suffering servant who is led like a lamb to the slaughter (Isaiah 53:7). This is the central and centering image, the focal point of Revelation. How do you respond to this image of Jesus?
- This passage shows us that suffering is at the center of reality. How do you respond to knowing that you are closer to the heart of God when you are suffering? How does having a new perspective comfort you when you are going through trials?

Application:

1. Slow down to Experience God! What spiritual disciplines can you engage in to help you worship God this week?
2. When facing trials, ask "How would Jesus respond? How did the way he responded to difficult situations lead me to respond when facing similar situations?"
3. What circumstances in your life do you need to have reframed by gazing at the lion who is also the slain lamb? Surrender them in prayer together.

Closing Prayer

Lord God, open our eyes to those powers that would claim our worship. Help us to faithfully follow the Slaughtered Lamb, using our weakness to reveal the power of your Kingdom. In the name of the Resurrected Christ, Amen.