

bigIdea

Life as we know it won't last forever. With the end of 2012 getting closer, the Mayan calendar, natural disasters, and those nutty people who keep setting dates for the rapture, it seems like everyone's wondering how it's all going to end. So what happens when this world ceases to exist? And does it matter in the here and now?



BIG IDEA: The Book of Revelation shows us five pictures of Jesus: He is the Alpha and Omega, He is the Lamb of God, He is the Righteous Judge, He is the King of Kings, and He is the Bridegroom.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What vivid dream (or nightmare!) from childhood do you still recall?
2. Why do you think some people read the end of a book first? When someone skips straight to the end, what is the danger in that?
3. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read and discuss Revelation 2-3.* Of the 7 churches, which one do you see yourself spiritually? Have you lost your first love like Ephesus? Are you suffering like Smyrna? Are you compromised sexually like Pergamum? Do you tolerate bad things like Thyatira? Are you spiritually dead or asleep like Sardis? Are you following Jesus patiently like Philadelphia? Are you lukewarm in your relationship with Jesus like Laodicea?
4. *In Revelation 4-5, you see what is happening in heaven right after the rapture. With your Bible or YouVersion, read and discuss Revelation 4.* What does the scene around the throne include? Note its many Old Testament images (*Genesis 9:12-17, Exodus 19:16-19, 25:31-40, 2 Chronicles 4:2-6, Ezekiel 1*)
5. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read and discuss Revelation 5.* What do you think makes the scroll so significant? What dilemma does the sealed scroll pose? Why is Christ the only One worthy enough to open it? (5:4, 9, John 1:29) What titles are used to describe Jesus?
6. *In Revelation 6-19, you see what is happening on earth during the 7 year Tribulation. Which seal opening makes the greatest impression on you in Revelation 6? Why? Describe the earth during the Trumpet blasts in Revelation 8. Does this imagery seem far removed to you?*
7. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read and discuss Revelation 1:7-18, 5:6-9, 19:11-16, and 21:9-10.* Which descriptions of the end times in Revelation do you find to be the most interesting?
8. How do you feel when you read about God's wrath and judgment in Revelation?
9. How can the second coming of Christ be a source of hope for you instead of a source of fear?
10. Who is Jesus to you?

MOVING FORWARD

Knowing that Christ could return at any time, what's one important thing you've been putting off doing tomorrow that you need to do today?



FOR FURTHER STUDY

The second coming of Christ is one of the most talked about and controversial topics found in God's Word. This 32-day reading plan strips away all of the theories and focuses on what The Bible says about the end of time. You can access the plan using the YouVersion app on your mobile device or on the YouVersion website at go2.lc/theendplan.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

And I saw a strong angel, who shouted with a loud voice: "Who is worthy to break the seals on this scroll and open it? Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David's throne, has won the victory. He is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals." Revelation 5:2, 5

