

## Small Group Guide: Revelation 5 - The Lamb Who Reigns

### Key Takeaways:

1. The central image of Revelation 5 is the Lion who appears as a slain Lamb, representing Jesus.
2. God's plan for redemption and victory comes through sacrifice and suffering, not domination.
3. Christians are called to reign with Christ now by following His example of self-sacrificial love.
4. Speaking truth in love, even when it leads to persecution, is part of how we reign with Christ.
5. The kingdom of God often operates in ways that seem upside-down to worldly thinking.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How does the image of Jesus as both Lion and Lamb challenge your understanding of power and victory?
2. The podcast mentions that "we're currently reigning" with Christ. What does this mean to you practically? How might it change how you view your daily life?
3. Discuss the statement: "Evil is only overcome one way. That's by sacrificial goodness." Do you agree? Why or why not?
4. How do you reconcile the idea of loving your enemies with the need for justice in society?
5. The podcast talks about speaking truth in love, even when it leads to persecution. Can you think of a time when you or someone you know had to do this? What was the outcome?
6. How does the example of Erica Kirk forgiving her husband's killer demonstrate the principles discussed in this sermon?
7. In what ways might our cultural understanding of Christianity differ from the "upside-down kingdom" described in the sermon?

### Practical Applications:

1. This week, identify a situation where you're tempted to respond with anger or retaliation. Instead, pray about how you can respond with "sacrificial goodness."
2. Practice speaking truth in love. Choose a controversial topic and discuss with a friend how you might address it from a Christ-like perspective.
3. Spend time in prayer interceding for those who oppose or persecute Christians, asking God to show them mercy and bring them to salvation.

4. Reflect on areas in your life where you might be relying on worldly power rather than Christ-like humility. Ask God to help you realign your approach.
5. Look for opportunities to bless someone who has hurt you or with whom you disagree. Keep a journal of how this impacts both you and them.
6. Study the life of a Christian martyr or modern-day persecuted believer. How does their example challenge or inspire you?
7. As a group, discuss ways you can support and encourage each other in living out these challenging teachings in your daily lives.