

## Fall 2025 Small Groups | Ep. 1 | Revelation 1

### Read Revelation 1

#### **Key Takeaways:**

1. The book of Revelation is not primarily about end times prophecy, but about giving us a clear picture of who Jesus is now.
2. When things get difficult, we need a revelation of Jesus more than strategies or programs.
3. Revelation was written to encourage persecuted Christians to remain faithful witnesses.
4. The symbolism in Revelation paints a powerful picture of Jesus' authority, wisdom, and victory.
5. Understanding Jesus' true nature gives us courage to face trials and persecution.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What has been your previous understanding or experience with the book of Revelation? How does this challenge or expand that view?
2. American Christians often apply a "comfort paradigm" to the gospel. In what ways have you seen this in your own life or in the church?
3. Reflect on the description of Jesus in Revelation 1:12-16. Which aspect of this description stands out to you most and why?
4. How does the idea that Jesus holds "the keys of death and Hades" (Rev 1:18) impact your view of current challenges or fears?
5. The passage emphasizes being a "faithful witness" even in the face of persecution. What does being a faithful witness look like in your current context?
6. How can we cultivate a deeper understanding of who Jesus is beyond just intellectual knowledge?
7. How might meditating on the vivid imagery of Christ in Revelation 1 (e.g. eyes like flame of fire, feet like burnished bronze) transform our worship and relationship with Him?

#### **Practical Applications:**

- This week, spend time meditating on Revelation 1:12-18. Try to visualize the description of Jesus and journal about what this reveals about His character and power.
- Identify an area of fear or anxiety in your life. Write down how the truths about Jesus from this chapter speak to that specific situation.

- Practice "seeing the unseen" this week by intentionally looking for evidence of God's work in situations that seem challenging or discouraging.
  - Choose one attribute of Jesus highlighted in this chapter (e.g., His wisdom, His purifying nature, His authority) and focus on how you can reflect that attribute in your daily life.
  - As a group, discuss ways you can support and encourage one another to be "faithful witnesses" in your community, even if it means facing discomfort or opposition.
  - Each detail of this description carries profound symbolism (detailed below). Discuss the symbolism of how John saw Jesus as a group. Take a moment to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal a fresh vision of Jesus to you even now. Share what you see.
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- ☐ The robe and golden sash speak of Christ's roles as both High Priest and victorious King.
  - ☐ His white hair points to His eternal wisdom as the Ancient of Days.
  - ☐ Eyes like blazing fire represent His penetrating gaze that purifies and refines.
  - ☐ Feet like burnished bronze show His unshakeable authority and judgment.
  - ☐ His voice, like rushing waters, drowns out all competing voices.
  - ☐ The stars in His hand remind us that He, not astrology or fate, controls our destiny.
  - ☐ The sharp sword from His mouth is His word that cuts to the heart of every matter.
  - ☐ His radiant face shines with blessing and favor upon His people.