

# Sermon Discussion Questions

The Plan – Matt Slocum

Sermon Text: Revelation 6:1-8

By: Joy Jackson

## AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

## INTRODUCTION

In week 5 of our sermon series in Revelation, Matt walked us through a commonly referenced but complex passage in Revelation: the seals, horsemen, trumpets, and bowls. In his message entitled, **The Plan**, we see that understanding this passage helps us see different perspectives of God's ultimate plan, which is for the church to be a faithful witness to the world by suffering.

## PRAYER (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for prayers where people are feeling discomfort. Instead of praying that the discomfort be removed, pray that the person can lean in to the discomfort and learn what God is teaching through it.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week, you were asked to pay attention to what God wanted you to see differently. What did you see this week?
2. What was new information that stuck out to you from this week's sermon? Did anything make you rethink a preconception you had?
3. The imagery and symbolism of Revelation is constantly connecting back to images and narratives in the rest of the Bible. For example, Matt explained the connection between the apocalypse "de-creation" and de-creation stories of the flood, Sodom and Gomorrah, Egypt during the exodus, etc. Does tracing themes and narratives throughout the Bible help you make more sense of its overall message? How does making these connections affect how you think about the Bible's truth and inerrancy?
4. Matt warned that de-creation can happen to any group of people who allow God to be removed from the group's structure. Are there any groups you are a part of that are in danger of de-creation? Your community? Your city? Your job? Your country? Why?

## Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. Besides the Bible, what is the best book you've ever read?
2. What is your favorite Fall-season food, dessert, or drink? What makes it special?
3. Who is one of the most influential people in your life? Why that person?

5. God's plan is that the church be a faithful witness to the world by suffering or being in discomfort. As a member of the church, how does that plan make you feel?

### **APPLICATION**

What step can you take to be uncomfortable this week? Do it and share your experience with the group next week.

### **COMING UP**

To join a small group, sign up at <https://nwckc.com> or at one of the weekend services. Study materials are available to download on the church website or on the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page.

Revelation Sermon Series, 18 Sep – 13 Nov, 9:00 and 11:00, Oak Park HS

Trunk or Treat – 22 October, 2:00-4:00, Oak Park HS (Register or volunteer online)

### **FINAL THOUGHT**

**When I step into discomfort, the power and presence of God comes into my life.**