Introduction to Revelation (Revelation 1:1-4)
& 2019 State of the Union
January 6, 2019 | Don Logan

Revelation 1:1–4 (ESV)

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.
John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Group Discussion

1. Read Revelation 1:1-4.
   - What do we learn about this letter?
   - How did it get to John?
   - To whom is he writing?
   - How do we receive a blessing from it?

2. Explain the difference between an **apocryphal**, **prophetic** and **epistle** book in the Bible?
   - What are some of the implications that this book/letter is all 3!?

3. Have you done a search for meaning in numbers in the Bible? What have you learned?
   - What is the benefit and danger of symbolism in the Word of God?

4. Why is this book interesting to you? (If it is) Why have you avoided it? (If you have)

5. Why has this book, which was intended for encouragement and unity, caused so much confusion and disunity in modern Christians, in your opinion?

(Leaders: *Lack of understanding literature genre, lack of understanding 1st century culture, lack of persecution*)

6. Talk about this purpose of the book: "God wins, and we win if we remain in Him."

7. How would you describe yourself on the Eternal "team"?

1) **In** (Invested. Serving. Growing. Full of Ministry. Discipling. Praying. Self-Motivated)

2) **Injured** (Tired. Hurt. Wounded. Unforgiving or Unforgiven. Sick. Finances. Death)

3) **Not on the team** (Searching. Uncommitted. Listening. Deciding. Waiting)

4) **Consumer** ("What is the church doing for...?" "Why don't they...?" "How come we don't...?" "Wouldn't it be nice if someone...?")

Prayer and praise