



7 Churches

Series Resources

THE 7 CHURCHES

APRIL 26 - JUNE 21, 2026

Revelation! It's a book often talked about, but more rarely read. You've probably heard a lot about it over the years, and maybe also have a lot of expectations, thoughts, and maybe even fears surrounding the book. But try to put those aside. Over the next 9 weeks, we'll be stepping into the first three chapters of Revelation, and the encouragement and challenge you'll find will be refreshing.

Revelation is **letter**, written to be circulated to a number of churches by the apostle John, near the end of his life. These early churches were continuing to wrestle with the reality of the brokenness of this world, the pervasiveness of persecution, and the martyrdom of their friends and family. In the midst of those difficult days, they were asking, **"Will it ever be alright?"** In response, Jesus came and gave John a vision - a revelation - **an "apocalypse"** (which is based on the Greek word for, "to reveal or unveil.") That revelation sought to give hope, encouragement, and bring peace. The answer to the question of those early Christians was simple: **"God wins and restores all things. Just persevere."**

READING APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE

One of the biggest difficulties of reading Revelation is that it's written in a genre called, "apocalyptic literature" - literally, "revelation text." It's John's written description of visions given to him by Jesus Christ. Those descriptions are steeped in imagery and allusions to other passages in the Bible, and many people disagree on how best to read Revelation. But don't let this stop you. God will meet you in the text, as you seek to faithfully read it.

TIPS FOR READING APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE

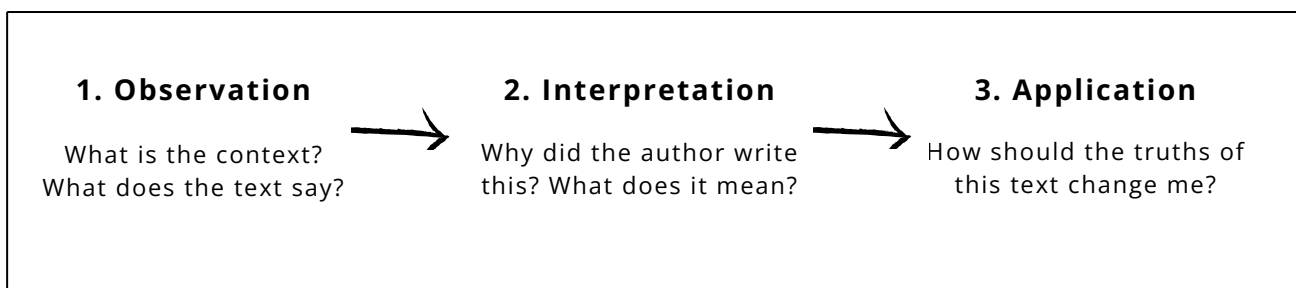
1. Look for the Old Testament. When practicing interpretation, don't ask, "What does this mean now?" Consider where it might be present in the Old Testament.
2. Let the text interpret itself. Each of these passages have broader contexts - read in your Bible before and after the passage.
3. Pay attention to repetitive structures or patterns, and compare those structures to each other.
4. Notice the response or reaction a text might have produced. Apocalyptic literature is very evocative.
5. Focus on Jesus throughout the passages. The book is called, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ," not "the revelation of the end times!"

Note: there are helpful thoughts about reading apocalyptic literature on page 137 of your Bible 101 handbook, and background on Revelation on page 205.

HOW TO USE THE WORKSHEETS

This series walks through very manageable lengthed passages in the first three chapters of Revelation. The text for each passage is listed each week (from the ESV translation of the Bible), and then the following worksheets will help you work through a study process through the content.

Don't be afraid to tear out the passage sheet, lay it next to the observation sheet, and mark them up with colored pencils and notes. Actively interact with the text! Take your time to make many good observations before moving onto interpretation. Remember, our interpretation will only be as thorough as our observation! And don't skip application.



In every step, pray and meditate on God's Word.

Spending time with God in Scripture is the goal. Slow down to marvel at who He is. Ask Him to press His truth into you. Prioritize your relationship with Him over finding the right answer or the perfect application.

You change as you spend time with Him.

The Bible is to be studied for a lifetime. Try not to get overwhelmed by what you don't know or understand. **Build your library of knowledge one day at a time.** You'll be amazed at how the connections start to come more easily and quickly over time. God's Spirit is with you as a guide.

A STRONG CHALLENGE

Because we're reading a style of literature that many people read in different ways, it is *best* to read this together, or at least discuss your study with others. Don't neglect the church and others as you're reading these texts.

RESOURCES

Our church research library (in the chapel foyer) has a number of commentaries on Revelation. Feel free to stop by and reference them for help.

If you're interested in purchasing a commentary, we recommend either *Exalting Jesus in Revelation (Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary)*, or *Revelation for You: Seeing History from Heaven's Perspective (God's Word for You)*

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH
REVELATION 1:1-8
PROLOGUE

¹ 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, ² who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. ³ 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.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned.

Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, MAY 3
REVELATION 1:9-20
THE VISION OF JESUS CHRIST

⁹ I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹ saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵ his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. ¹⁹ Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. ²⁰ As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned.

Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, MAY 10
REVELATION 2:1-7
THE CHURCH IN EPHESUS

¹ "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.

² "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³ I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned. Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH
REVELATION 2:8-11
THE CHURCH IN SMYRNA

⁸ "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

⁹ "I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. ¹⁰ Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. ¹¹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.'

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned.

Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, MAY 24TH
REVELATION 2:12-17
THE CHURCH IN PERGAMUM

¹² "And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: 'The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword.

¹³ "I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. ¹⁴ But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. ¹⁵ So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.'

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned.

Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, MAY 31ST
REVELATION 2:18-29
THE CHURCH IN THYATIRA

¹⁸ "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: 'The words of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and whose feet are like burnished bronze.

¹⁹ "I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first. ²⁰ But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality. ²² Behold, I will throw her onto a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works, ²³ and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works. ²⁴ But to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not learned what some call the deep things of Satan, to you I say, I do not lay on you any other burden. ²⁵ Only hold fast what you have until I come. ²⁶ The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, ²⁷ and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. ²⁸ And I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned.

Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7
REVELATION 3:1-6
THE CHURCH IN SARDIS

¹ “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

“I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ² Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. ³ Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. ⁴ Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵ The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. ⁶ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned.

Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14
REVELATION 3:7-13
THE CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

⁷ “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: ‘The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

⁸ “I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹ Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. ¹⁰ Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹ I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. ¹² The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. ¹³ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned. Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21
REVELATION 3:14-22
THE CHURCH IN LAODICEA

¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

PART 1: OVERVIEW

Read the entire passage a few times.
You can listen to it or read it out loud.

PART 2: OBSERVATION; APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE | WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

<p style="text-align: center;">Context</p> <p>What is the fuller context of the passage (think chapter and book), and what questions or tensions is the author addressing?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Symbols or Imagery</p> <p>What colors, physical features, objects, or places are present that could be symbolic, representative, or serve as a link to another passage of Scripture?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Senses</p> <p>Make note of the sounds, physical reactions, and spatial movements. Try to capture what the text is trying to evoke.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Patterns</p> <p>In this passage or in surrounding ones, what repeated phrases, numbers, or structures are present?</p>

Q: What questions do you have after observing the context, terms, and concept relationships in this passage?
Remember, every observation can be turned into a question.

PART 3: INTERPRETATION | WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why did the author write this?

1. How does the text and other Scriptures you know of answer your questions?

Consult maps, Bible handbooks, commentaries, concordances, and study Bible notes as necessary to learn about places, customs and people.

2. Write down any other notes, thoughts, or things you learned from this passage.

Summarize this passage in one sentence. What is the main idea or intent? What would you title this passage?

PART 4: APPLICATION | HOW SHOULD THE TRUTHS OF THIS TEXT CHANGE ME?

1. What is your response to this passage?

3. Does this passage change the way you view God?

2. Are there examples of things you want to follow or avoid?

4. Is there a truth you want to thank God for or follow?

5. Pray that God would help you apply these words and truths.

PART 5: DISCUSS IN COMMUNITY

Gather with your group or a few friends and discuss what you learned. Listen to what others learned and ask each other questions.

