

The End of Mission

Portions of Revelation 5, 21, & 22

Introduction:

Today we find ourselves at the end of our “Exiles” series. I hope that the last 10 weeks of sermons (and the last five weeks of discussion guides) have been beneficial for you. Just as a reminder, this page is merely a discussion guide. You do not need to be a Bible scholar. Life Groups are designed to cultivate an environment where reading Scripture, engaging in prayer, and being in biblical fellowship will flourish. Facilitating such an environment is all that we ask. Today’s guide will cover parts of three different chapters in the book of Revelation. If you utilize The Moody Bible Commentary, you can find the content on pages 2008-2009 and 2025-2027. - JF

Questions:

Think about a time that you were invited to a great banquet. This might be a fundraiser, a wedding, or a Christmas party. What were some of the highlights of the banquet? How did the banquet make you feel about the host of the party? What feelings did you experience as an attendee? Why is it important to celebrate such occasions?

Read Revelation 5. Have someone paraphrase the events of this chapter. Why is this chapter important? How might this chapter help exiles (Christians who are in the world but not of the world) find hope, comfort, and/or encouragement? Based on the entire series, why are these experiences/attributes important to all Christians? How does this chapter provide hope, comfort, or encouragement to you and **your situation** right now?

Read Revelation 21. Have someone paraphrase the events of this chapter. How is Jesus described in this chapter? Why is the description so important? How is the New Heaven and the New Earth described? What questions do you have about the New Creation? What do you long for in the New Creation? How does this chapter provide hope, comfort, and/or encouragement to Christians? How does it provide hope, comfort, and/or encouragement to you and **your situation** right now?

Read Revelation 22. Have someone paraphrase the events of this chapter. How does this chapter provide hope, comfort, and/or encouragement to Christians? How does it provide hope, comfort, and/or encouragement to you and **your situation** right now?

Gene Wilkes, president of B.H. Carroll Theological Seminary and former pastor of Legacy, taught us this past Sunday. Is there anything that he said in his sermon that you would like to discuss further? Is there anything that stood out to you from the group’s reading or conversation that you would like to revisit?

Now that we have concluded our series on “Exiles,” what is one or two things that you have learned about being an exile as a Christian? What impact has this series made on the way that you live as a faithful and obedient Christian? If you can’t think of a way that it has impacted you, allow the group to brainstorm ways that it might begin to impact you. What will you consciously begin to change (with the help of the Holy Spirit) about the way that you live in this world? How would you describe to a younger Christian what it means to be an exile? Who are you currently walking alongside of to help them in their life of exile as a Christian? How can we pray for other Christians who experience physical, emotional, and/or psychological persecution during their time on earth? Are there any other comments or questions about this series and our response to God as exiles?

Conclusion:

As a group, you might consider ending your group time with a worship song or two. You can listen to the song and internalize your worship OR you can sing out loud, ignoring any awkwardness that might be present in a small group because worship of Jesus is what we are called to.

Consider using Spotify, Apple Music, or YouTube to play songs such as *Is He Worthy*, *Revelation Song*, *The Doxology*, *In Christ Alone*, *Great Are You Lord*, or *How Great Is Our God*. Some people may want to stand, others sit, while some might even want to close their eyes and get lost in worship. Do what is good and appropriate for you and your group. After a few songs of worship, feel free to close in prayer.