

SESSION 2

OPENING PRAYER

God you are the Father Almighty. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Lord God of power and might, You are our Protector, our Shield, our Savior. You are the One we come from. You are the One we should be living for, God. Lord Jesus, You reign in Heaven at the right hand of the Father. Be with us, now, Lord. Send us your Holy Spirit - Your Holy Power - to guide us to all truth. *All Glory be...*

Remember what we said paradoxes at the beginning of the Session 1?

What is more powerful, a lion or a lamb? Our natural answer would be a lion, based on a lion's strength, ferocity, and agility. A lamb, by contrast, is a defenseless creature, open to slaughter by a stronger predator. The truth, though, is that on Good Friday, Christ gave us a new vision of strength and power. When Christ took our sins upon Himself on the Cross, an act that required greater strength than any of us can fathom, we were given a new vision of power ... power made perfect in weakness.

The alcoholic who admits his problem has more power over it than the one who proudly denies his addiction. The person who lives chastely and protects his sexuality has more power over himself (and others) than one who gives his power away through abusing that gift.

God's mercy towards us is not a sign of weakness. God's mercy demonstrates, again, just how truly powerful He is – and how blessed we are that He is so loving. God's motivation is salvation. It always has been. Since Genesis, and throughout every book in the Bible, we see how God has worked and is working for our salvation.

God's motivation is your salvation. What is your motivation each day? Is it your salvation or your personal desires? Whose motivation is more pure, yours or God's? Whose plan on achieving salvation is more pure, yours or God's? Whose judgment of whether or not you deserve salvation is more pure, yours or God's?

Thank God that the powerful lion is as gentle as a lamb.

THE CHAPTERS COVERED IN THIS LESSON

Revelation Chapters 6-11

OPENING QUESTION

What does God teach us about power?

VERSE TO REMEMBER

Revelation 7:17

BREAKING IT DOWN

1. What do the opening of the seals represent in Chapter six?
Judgment.
2. What image appears with the opening of the first four seals?
The four horseman.

3. What does John see when the fifth seal opens (6:9)?
The martyrs.
4. What do the seven classes of men mentioned (6:15) teach us about judgment?
Everyone will be affected regardless of class or power.
5. What is the “new seal” we hear of in chapter seven?
The seal of Baptism.
6. What do we learn about suffering in chapter seven (7:14)?
Suffering has value. When we suffer we grow closer to God and most like Christ.
7. What are trumpets used for in Scripture?
(1) Signaling of war and judgment
(2) Signaling of worship
8. What does Revelation 9:4 promise us about the saving sign?
We will not be removed from judgment, but we will be protected from its full effects.
9. What were the people in the final judgment given?
They are given the opportunity to repent.
10. In Revelation 11:10, how are the prophets’ ministries described?
A torment to people on earth.

Play the DVD - Disc 1, Segment 2

TALKING IT OUT

Discussion Questions

1. Do you ever call friends or family members out of sin? If so, how do they respond to it? If not, why not?
2. Can you call someone to holiness without judging them? Explain.
3. How are you called to be a martyr in small ways? What “little deaths” will you have to die at this stage of your life, to live as Christ calls you to live?
4. Talk about Reconciliation. Is it something you dread or enjoy? Explain.
5. Does your faith “torment” anyone? Explain.

THINKING IT THROUGH

How does God use suffering to draw us closer to Him? Is most of the suffering in your life a result of your own sin or is God allowing suffering to help you grow in holiness? Reflect on your sufferings and struggles and spend some time in prayer, asking God to reveal to you what is from you and what is from Him.

CLOSING PRAYER