

Revelation 13-14 October 20 | Group Guide

Pray, read Scripture, watch a video, and ask two questions (20 minutes).

Begin your group time in prayer. Ask for the Lord to help each of you take his word into your life.

Then, read Revelation 13-14.

After reading, watch the Week 10 life group introductory video on Revelation.

Questions to ask:

- What stands out to you from this passage? From the Week 10 video? Was anything new to you? Explain.
- In his sermon, Dan identified the two beasts of Revelation 13 as (1) Godless governments; and (2) False religion. Have you ever thought of the beast of Revelation in this sense?
- In what ways have you seen or heard of, via news or other outlets, oppressive governments embodying the plans of the evil one? Explain.

Break into smaller, same-gendered groups for deeper discussion and prayer (30 minutes).

• Read Revelation 13:18. If the two beasts of Revelation stand for godless government and false religion respectively, how do you discern between a government or institution that serves God's purposes and one that opposes his Kingdom? How do you discern between religion that honors God and religion that does not?

- What are ways that you seek wisdom for the above discernment? Where should/can you go?
- Revelation 13 presents a stark choice between worshiping "the beast" or remaining faithful to God. How do you see this choice reflected in your own life today? What pressures or temptations challenge your allegiance to God, and how do you respond?
- Read Revelation 13:16-17; Revelation 14:1-5, 9-11. There are two marks given in these passages to two different groups of people, indicating those who participate in/follow godless governments and those who follow the Lamb. This gets us to a question on identity. How do you navigate following Jesus within our current political system? Do you ever feel tempted to find your identity in your politics? How might this passage challenge that?
- Explore whether you've been tempted to rely solely on political solutions while disregarding spiritual ones. Or vice versa. Where has this been the case in your life? Why are both important?

Once finished, come back together as a large group.

Come back together as one large group for discussion and prayer for our country (10 minutes).

Share with the large group any takeaways or final thoughts from your time apart.

Once finished with sharing, spend a few moments praying for our nation – for justice, goodness, truth, and righteousness to be in our land and for wisdom for our leaders.

Split into triads for prayer requests and prayer (10 minutes).

Like last week, as you wrap up, split your group into mixed triads. In each triad, have people share their prayer requests. Once each person is finished sharing, each person should then pray for the person on their right until every person in the triad group is prayed for.

Finish with logistics (5 minutes).

Make sure to inform your group about the study devotions available to help you walk through our Revelation series! You can find that material at thecreek.org/devotionals.