

Apocalypse 2020 LifeGroup Curriculum

Introduction Activity 1:

What do you think of when you hear the word “apocalypse?”

Introduction Activity 2:

Game: Time your group for 2 minutes. Have each person write down as many significant events as they can. Share as a group (omitting repeats).

Sermon Recap:

1. An apocalypse in the Bible reveals something previously hidden.
2. Apocalypses show a true picture of the world.
3. Apocalypses are meant to confront and comfort.
4. Apocalypse is something God does to us.
5. As the image of God, we are meant to reflect and reveal the nature of God to the world- we are walking apocalypses.

Reading 1:

Paul refers to his Damascus Road conversion as an apocalypse (Gal 1:12, 15-16). Read Luke’s account of this conversion in Acts 9:1-9 and then compare that account to Paul’s retelling of the incident in Acts 22:6-11 and Acts 26:13-19.

1. What are the differences? Why are there differences?
2. Why did Paul need an apocalypse? What was his perspective/worldview before compared to after?
3. What is Paul’s view of apocalypse and its importance in the life of a follower of Jesus? (Read Ephesians 1:15-23)



Reading 2:

Paul’s apocalypse became a significant part of his personal witness. Jesus charged us as being witnesses to His work in our lives (revealed through apocalypses) in Acts 1:8. Read Acts 1:8 and reflect on the following:

1. What does it mean to be called a witness? What is a witness’ job, what is their active role?
2. The Greek word for witness is “*martureō*” which can also translate into the word “martyr.” What are the similarities between a martyr and a witness?
3. Check out more on the biblical idea of a witness here: <https://bibleproject.com/learn/witness/>

God Encounters:

Share about what God has been doing in your life the past few days, weeks, or months. How have you seen Him working?
What do you see Him doing in your life, in you?

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Application Activity 1:

Write down a list of all the things you can think of that you've experienced in 2020. Include things that are good things as well as difficult things. Once you have your list, begin working your way through the following questions:

1. What do you think God could have been revealing to you through these events?
2. Sometimes God doesn't just reveal things you should do but reveals aspects of His character and nature. Have you any events this year that have taught you more about who God is?
3. God often doesn't work how we expect, what is one way He has worked this year that wasn't as you expected?
4. Apocalypses are sometimes called moments of clarity or an epiphany. Did you have any of those this past year?
5. Apocalypses show a true picture of the world. What are false narratives that we tend to believe over the truth of Scripture?
6. How does our understanding of the biblical term, "apocalypse," change how we read books like Revelation or Daniel?
7. God reveals that we might do something with our revelation (Gal. 1:16). What will you do with the things God has revealed to you in 2020? What is your prayer that He would reveal to you in 2021? For what purpose?



Application Activity 2:

As image bearers of God, we are called to reflect Him to the world, to be a light, to be salt, to apocalypse the reality of the Kingdom of God to the world.

1. Who are you called to be a "walking apocalypse" to/for?
2. What are you called to illuminate to them?
3. How will you illuminate that to them?
4. Are there other things/events/apocalypses in your life that God has orchestrated that had a significant impact on your witness?

Prayer Activity:

Spend some time in prayer together, thanking God for His work in the world during 2020. Celebrate the ways you've seen Him work, reassert your faithfulness to Him even if you don't understand how He is working or what He is doing. Be honest and authentic with one another, trusting your group with where you really are with God at this point.