



Leader Guide

How Much Longer Can We Take This?

October 23, 2022

Main Passage: Revelation 5

Theological Theme

We live in a broken world full of problems that need to be dealt with. There is no solution apart from Jesus because He is the only One worthy. No one on earth, in heaven, or under the earth can fix what is wrong except the perfect Lamb of God.

Introduction

- ? Who do you turn to when something is broken (vehicle, appliance, relationship, toy, etc.)?
- ? Why does it matter if you find a solution to the problem?

1. Unworthy and Overcome (Revelation 5:1-4)

Chapter 5 starts with a picture of a scroll in the right hand of God. This is the hand of power and authority. Scrolls were used to record important words, usually with writing only on one side. That this scroll is described with writing on both the front and back indicates that it was unusual, very detailed, and held much information.

- ? What does it tell you about Jesus that He is the only one capable of opening this scroll of God?
- ? What are some things people do to try to fix the sin problem in the world? Why is that futile apart from Jesus?
- ? Application: How does your heart break for the things that break God's heart? How is God calling you to act in response?

2. Only One Is Worthy (Revelation 5:5-7)

One of the elders interrupted John's grieving to tell him One had been found who was able to open the scroll. Imagine how John felt as he realized hope had returned to what seemed like a hopeless situation.

- ? How did the elder describe the One worthy to open the scroll?
- ? Which description for Jesus used here means the most to you and why?
- ? Application: How does this description of Jesus impact you today? Where do you need Jesus's wisdom and/or power?

3. Praise Jesus! (Revelation 5:8-14)

When Jesus, the Lamb of the tribe of Judah, stepped forward and took the scroll as only He could, there was only one possible response. All fell in worship. Those at the throne, from high-ranking angels to redeemed people, hit their knees.

One paragraph overview of this section.

- ❓ When have you had a moment when you could not refrain from worshiping the Lord?
- ❓ How did that shape your walk with Him?
- ❓ Application: What do you need to do in response to what you've learned about Jesus today?

Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

- ❓ What does this passage say?
- ❓ What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about God?
- ❓ What does this passage tell us about man?
- ❓ What does this passage demand of me?
- ❓ How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
- ❓ How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).