

LESSON 1: SCARY STUFF

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for speaking to us through the Bible. Teach us how to read and understand Revelation that we may know what You have to say about the issues we face in our lives, and be confident that You will guide all the things that happen in our lives and in our world for our salvation. We pray this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Why Read Revelation?

- How much of Revelation have you read?
- What do you think it is all about?

Watch the Video: Lesson 1

- What are some of the scary things you've heard about Revelation?
- What have you heard other people say about them?

There is some scary stuff in Revelation, especially if the things it describes take place during our lifetimes. Let's take a few minutes to read and think about some of this scary stuff.

Read Revelation 6:1-17 - The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

- Which of these events do you find particularly scary? Why?
- How could you discuss these things with your unchurched friends?

Return to video and finish watching Lesson 1.

Speaking in Code

- As an adult, what codes do you use in front of your children, pets, or neighbors?
- What code words do we Christians use in our conversations that keep unchurched people in the dark and hamper our witness?

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Revelation: a Father's Warning to His Children

We might wonder why God would write a scary letter filled with code words to His children. Actually, the letter itself wasn't as scary as the world in which God's children were living, suffering, and dying. God wanted His letter of Revelation to prepare all of us for the suffering we might see and experience and, more importantly, to show us how Jesus already won the victory and that "the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us (Romans 8:18b).

- What worldly dangers should we warn our children about as they approach adulthood?
- How can you talk about these same dangers with your friends or coworkers?

Closing Prayer: Lord Jesus, open our minds to understand Your Word so that we may have confidence in Your great power, put our trust in Your gracious plan for our lives, and share that plan with those who don't know You. Amen.

THE REVELATION CODE (so far ...)

Dragon = Devil

Lampstands = Churches

Incense = Prayers

White = Victory

Black = Famine/starvation

Pale grey = Death

Sword/ Jesus' mouth = Word of God