

WARM UP QUESTION: What strategies are usually used to win a war?

**READ:** Revelation 14:1-5

FOCUS: We wage war with weapons of faithfulness and sacrifice.

## **OBSERVE:**

We are in a cosmic war.

- In this world, the reality is that Satan and his armies are opposed to Jesus and His armies.
- Many believers wonder what God will do in response to the oppression of the saints on earth. To understand this more, we start with understanding that God's army fights differently from how the enemy fights. Christians wage war with the weapons of faithfulness and sacrifice.

The weapon of faithfulness:

- The weapon of faithfulness has several aspects, including believers' identity in Christ, their worship and the fruit of their lives.
- In the scripture, believers are encouraged to shout their battle cry of praise to the Lord.
- God's faithful ones are described as the first fruits, pure, holy and for Him alone. Historically, the first fruits were sacrificed to God in thanksgiving for His goodness.

The weapon of sacrifice:

- Christians are specifically characterized as the army of the Lamb, not the lion, even though Jesus is described as both the Lion of Judah and the Lamb of God.
- This is emphasized because Jesus triumphed over sin and death as the slain Lamb, once for all mankind. We now imitate Jesus in waging war with sacrifice. Believers overcome evil with sacrificial kindness, sacrificial love and sacrificial service.

## TAKE ACTION:

- Find time this week to think more deeply about how these truths affect your approach to daily life. Then talk about the main points impacting you with your life group members and trusted friends.
- We also encourage you to check out the next episode of 5 More Minutes, where our pastors share more thoughts that they did not have time to address on Sunday morning. The 5 More Minutes video is released on Kings Park's social media pages midway through the week at <u>Kingspark.org/fivemore</u>.

## **REFLECT:**

- What does it look like to be faithful to God with your identity and daily worship? What about the first fruits of your time, relationships and resources?
- What does sacrifice mean to you?

## PRAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, we praise You for our victory because Jesus died for us and was raised to life after three days. Thank You for making a way so that we could enter Your presence free and faultless, in Jesus' name, Amen.