WARM UP QUESTIONS:

- What characteristics make a person a good judge?
- If you were on trial for a crime, who would you want to issue the final verdict and why?

READ: Revelation 15-16

FOCUS: There is no refuge *from* the God who judges, but there is refuge *in* the God who judges.

OBSERVE:

- God is a righteous judge who executes perfect justice. It is by the standard of His holiness that He judges all creation.
- God does not condemn man for his shortcomings but instead chooses to vindicate and forgive man of his sin and iniquity. (He has compassion on His servants.)
- The wrath of God will intensify, and there is no refuge from it for those who suppress the truth. He will extract all evil from the world.
- The Lord will reign forever and forever! There will be a New Heaven and a New Earth.
- God calls everyone to Himself.
- The issue with God's judgment is not that God will not let people have a chance; it is that people are not giving God a chance. Do we give Him opportunities to work on us and change our circumstances? Do we reject or accept God's truth? How do we position our minds and hearts to agree with God?

TAKING ACTION:

We are to take refuge in God by our position. Therefore, we must position our minds and hearts and engage with the presence of God.

- Find time this week to engage in worship, prayer of all types and Scripture reading.
- Take time to invite the Lord to speak in your life about how you can continue to obey Him in more ways.
- Pray and intercede for people in the world to recognize their need for their consciences to be awakened to the truth.

REFLECT:

- Do you ask, "God, does it really have to happen this way?" Or do you easily accept God's decisions concerning your lives? Could this be why you struggle?
- Do you believe God is more patient than anyone? How do you respond to His patience?

PRAY:

Heavenly Father, we praise You for being the righteous God and Judge of Heaven. Thank You for making it plain for people to know the difference between truth and wickedness. Help us to accept that Your judgments are true and righteous altogether (Psalm 19:9). Judgment must begin at the house of God; we pray we live righteously before You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

