

WARM UP QUESTIONS: What is one thing that you have been afraid of but later, it turned out to be a good thing?

READ: Revelation 1:1-18

FOCUS: Jesus is victorious and those who are faithful to Him are also victorious.

OBSERVE:

The Function of Revelation

- Revelation is a letter written by the apostle John while in prison on the island of Patmos, just off the
 coast of modern-day Turkey. It was written to the seven churches in Western Turkey at that time.
 According to Revelation 1:9, John was writing to these churches in light of the present tribulation they
 were facing.
- Revelation also functioned as a prophecy to the churches in their current trials. It was to remind them of Christ's victory and foretell of His triumphant return and other things to come.
- Lastly, Revelation functions as an apocalypse, which comes from the Greek word that means "unveiling, uncovering." Through a series of visions, pictures and imagery, John describes the resurrected Lord King Jesus and His final victory over Satan and death.

The Focus of the Revelation

- Revelation is all about Jesus and His victory!
- This victorious Jesus who was, who is and is coming a second time will bring about the fullness of His kingdom in the new heaven and the new earth where our total victory will be completely enjoyed!

The Fruit of the Revelation

- God gave this book to produce fruit in our lives—not fruit of fear or mysticism. Revelation 1:3 gives a blessing to those who read, hear, believe and keep the Revelation.
- According to Revelation 1:5-6, Jesus' disciples are to live in their present tribulation knowing that they
 are free from sin and that He has made us into His kingdom and His priests who get to experience
 His victory.

REFLECT:

- What different things have you been told about Revelation? What fruit did they produce in you?
- When you experience trials in life, do you remember Christ's victory; are you sharing in that victory?

TAKE ACTION:

- Read along with us. Read Revelation and see how Jesus is the focus.
- Focus on Jesus' victory and your future hope to perfectly enjoy His victory by remaining faithful to Him.

PRAY:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your precious Word; it is a gift from You. Help me to better understand it, what it says about You and how it should impact my life. Thank You, Jesus, for defeating Satan, sin, sickness and death on the cross. Help me live victoriously in light of Your triumph and my future hope in You. Amen.