

Series: Understanding Who You Are Through the Eyes of God

Lesson 4: “You are a Critical Kingdom Builder”

***Announcements, encouragement to invite people and opening prayer.**



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** What is the most brilliant invention in history, so far?

Transition: Man has built some incredible things. The microwave; the solar panel; microchips; a ship that can actually land on the moon and come home; the motorcycle, etc. But none of this compares to what God designed using you and me and everyone who is willing to become the greatest creation in all eternity!

Bottom Line: Have you fully grasped the fact that God designed you to be a kingdom and a priest to literally work for the Creator of all life?

LESSON PLAN

Question – What would you look for if you were hiring someone to build your dream home?

Read Revelation 1:1-3

1. Why is John given this revelation?
2. What does John say he saw and is testifying to?
3. How could the book of Revelation, which is the Apocalypse, or the *Unveiling*, be the Word of God and the Testimony of Christ?

John was with Jesus the entire time and is able to witness to the fact that Jesus is the Word of God made flesh as he states in John 1:1. This Revelation is the story of Christ from creation of the world to creation of the everlasting new heaven and earth. It is the complete storyboard of all human history brought to the finished story. It is painted in vivid imagery of the great war, the successes and failures of God’s Kingdom builders within 7 of His churches,



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and the message of great hope that the Kingdom will not only remain undefeated but will stand in complete holiness forever. And the great news is those Kingdom builders for Christ Jesus will reign with Him forever and ever in the new heavens and earth.)

4. How do we receive a blessing from this letter?

Question – Why do you think this letter was such a blessing to those under the blood thirsty and evil emperor Domitian in AD 95 when it was written?

Jesus shows us the face of evil and complete victory of God. The Christians' families were being slaughtered and people were required to worship the emperor as a god. It was one of the darkest times in history and it is as if God were saying, “Let Jesus tell you through John what the end of the story is. It's not good for the bad team and for all of you in Christ, you will be exonerated and set free forever. More than that, you will be with God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit and all the saints who have gone before you and even the angels to live forever as a family. There will be no more pain, no more suffering, it is finished. That is the last page of human history.

Read Revelation 1:4-6

5. Who is this letter to be circulated among?

6. Who is the letter from?

This was a form of the divine name of God given to Moses in Exodus 3:14. The letter is from “I AM” who was with Moses, the God of the Hebrews. It is also from the 7 spirits before God's throne. This is most likely a symbolic way of expressing the Holy Spirit since 7 is the Biblical expression for perfection. It is also the other person in the Holy Trinity, Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, firstborn among the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.

Question – This letter is coming for the fullness of God Himself. Could you ever get a letter more important than this?



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7. Why did Jesus pour out His blood to set us free?

Question – What does it mean to you personally to know that God chose you to be one of the builders of His Kingdom?

Question – What do you think your role is in building the Kingdom?

Question – How active are you in building the Kingdom of God by ministering, reaching out in Jesus’ name to be His priest on earth?

Question – If offering our bodies as living sacrifices is the essence of true worship, growing in the Word of God and being continually transformed by it, then what can you and I do to daily be better priests ministering in the name of our Lord to bring Him honor and glory?

Brainstorming on the white board: What are some of the most effective ways each of us can minister in way that builds the kingdom like an expert builder to God’s glory?

Read Revelation 1:7-8

8. Who will see Jesus when He comes on the clouds?
9. Why will all the people of the earth mourn because of Him?

Most scholars agree that this is a wailing when all the peoples of the earth who have ever lived see Jesus coming as Lord and judge and they realize they were wrong and have crucified and rejected their hope. Everyone who chose not to come to the Father through the sacrificial death of Christ as an atonement for their sin now realizes it was all true. However, it is too late. The dead will be raised to an everlasting punishment along with Satan and the fallen angels to have the Kingdom of this world the ruled taken from them forever.)



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Question – How does this glorious and yet terribly sad scene call us to be great builders of the kingdom of God on earth in the time that's left?

10. What are Jesus' final words in verse 8?

11. What is significant about this particular phrase Jesus has used to describe who He is?

These are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. Jesus was saying He was the beginning of all history and time, the Creator. He is the culmination of all the will be. Jesus is applying the same title to Himself that God used, the sovereign who rules over all human history. Jesus is clearly saying that the one they pierced was, is and always will be God.”

Spend time on this final question. What is the one idea that stands out to you most from this lesson?