

## LifeGroup Leader Discussion Guide

20260208

### Apocalypse of Hope: Worship Warfare

#### Big Idea for Leaders

Revelation reframes worship as the central battleground of spiritual life. The question is never *if* we worship, but *who* or *what* receives our allegiance. Evil rarely attacks head-on; it imitates, distracts, and redirects devotion. Faithfulness looks like centering our lives—habits, imagination, and loyalty—on the Lamb.

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#### 1. What ideas from the sermon caught your attention?

##### Leader Insights

- This is a warm-up question—let people name what resonated without pressure to be “deep.”
- Listen for themes like *worship as warfare*, *the Unholy Trinity*, *parody vs. opposition*, or *resistance through faithfulness*.
- If responses stay surface-level, you can follow up with:
  - “Why do you think that stood out to you?”
  - “Did that idea feel challenging, comforting, or unsettling?”

##### Leader Tip

Affirm all responses. This question sets the tone that curiosity and honesty are welcome.

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#### 2. What is the most powerful worship experience you’ve ever had?

##### Leader Insights

- This helps people connect worship to *embodied experience*, not just music or services.
- Some may describe a song, others a moment of surrender, grief, awe, or silence.
- Gently broaden the definition if needed:
  - Worship can happen in suffering, obedience, repentance, or quiet trust—not just emotional highs.

### Leader Caution

Avoid comparing experiences. The goal isn't intensity, but attentiveness to God.

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### 3. The sermon described evil as a “parody” of God. Why do you think deception is more effective than direct opposition?

#### Leader Insights

- Deception works because it:
  - Feels familiar
  - Promises good things (life, freedom, success)
  - Requires less resistance than outright rebellion
- Revelation shows evil *imitating* God's power, authority, and even resurrection—not rejecting them.

#### Helpful Follow-Up

- “Where have you seen something that looks good or godly, but subtly pulls people away from Jesus?”

#### Anchor Thought

Satan doesn't need us to hate God—just to settle for substitutes.

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### 4. If worship is “aligning with reality,” what are some “alternate realities” the world tries to get us to believe in?

#### Leader Insights

Alternate realities often sound like:

- “You are what you produce.”
- “Security comes from money or control.”
- “Your worth depends on visibility, influence, or success.”
- “Power saves; weakness loses.”

#### Leader Tip

If the group gets abstract, bring it closer:

- “Which of these narratives feels most tempting *for you* right now?”
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**5. The Beast from the Sea mimics Christ's resurrection to gain "wonder" (Rev 13:3). What are some modern things that "amaze" us so much that they distract us from God?**

### **Leader Insights**

- "Wonder" isn't bad—but it becomes dangerous when it replaces awe of God.
- Common examples:
  - Technology and innovation
  - Celebrity culture
  - Political movements
  - Success stories and self-made narratives

### **Reframe for the Group**

- "What captures our attention, imagination, and hope the fastest?"
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**6. The False Prophet points people toward the first beast rather than himself. Where do you see 'prophetic voices' in our culture pointing people toward idols like wealth, status, or political power?**

### **Leader Insights**

- These "voices" often:
  - Claim authority
  - Offer certainty
  - Demand loyalty
- They may exist in media, social platforms, advertising, or even religious spaces.

### **Leader Caution**

Keep this from becoming partisan or accusatory.

- Redirect toward *patterns*, not people.
  - Ask: "What kinds of messages shape our sense of what matters most?"
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**7. The Mark of the Beast involves the hand and the forehead. How do our daily actions (hand) and thoughts (forehead) reveal who we are truly worshiping?**

### **Leader Insights**

- Hand = habits, work, spending, service

- Forehead = attention, imagination, anxieties, values
- Worship is revealed more by rhythms than by words.

### Helpful Prompt

- “What do you do automatically, without thinking?”
  - “What do you worry about most when you’re quiet?”
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**8. Worship in Revelation is a form of resistance. What is one specific area of your life where saying “Jesus is Lord” feels like a protest against the status quo?**

### Leader Insights

- This is a key application question.
- Resistance might look like:
  - Rest in a culture of burnout
  - Generosity in a culture of accumulation
  - Faithfulness in a culture of self-expression
  - Peacemaking in a culture of outrage

### Leader Tip

Model vulnerability if the group feels hesitant—briefly share your own example.

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**9. If someone looked at your calendar and bank statement from the last month, who would they say sits on the throne of your life?**

### Leader Insights

- This question invites honesty, not shame.
- Emphasize that *thrones can be reclaimed*.
- Many will notice misalignment rather than outright rejection of God.

### Leader Reframe

- “What do these tools *reveal*, not condemn?”
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**10. Which member of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, or Spirit—do you feel most called to ‘re-center’ in your life this week?**

## Leader Insights

- Father: trust, security, identity
- Son (Jesus): obedience, lordship, imitation
- Spirit: guidance, power, attentiveness, fruit

## Great Closing Move

Invite the group to:

- Pray silently or out loud for one another
  - Name one small, concrete step for the coming week
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## Final Encouragement for Leaders

Revelation isn't meant to scare us—it's meant to **steady us**. The Lamb has already won. Worship is how we stay aligned with that victory.

You're not leading people into fear—you're leading them into faithfulness.