



Us. The Story of God and People | Notetaking: 3...2....1 | Session #8

This format is to help you to take notes during this session's teaching. After the teaching, consider allowing everyone to share their responses to the following:

THREE ideas that stood out from the teaching:

TWO new things I learned from this teaching:

ONE important question I have from this session:

Group Discussion Guidelines:

We want this to be a safe place to learn and share, so here are a few ground rules to make this journey a positive experience for everyone.

1. Commit to confidentiality.
2. Please do not use your cellphone during this time.
3. Refrain from giving unsolicited advice; it can feel like criticism.
4. Use "I" statements rather than "you" statements.
5. It's important to participate but please do not dominate.
Please leave room for everyone to speak.

**“The Book of Revelation was written to encourage and equip
Christ Followers to be victorious.**

1. How do you see God's original intention for creation/humanity displayed in Revelation? How do you see God's promise to Abraham fulfilled in Revelation?
2. Do you think it's important for us understand the original historic context and message of Revelation? Why or why not?
3. Revelation sets Jesus' victory over death as the catalyst for church's mission and endurance through suffering.
How important is the resurrection of Jesus for the church today?
4. Beyond a future oriented salvation, how can Jesus' victory over death inspire and motivate us through difficulty today?

PRAYER: Invite the Holy Spirit to come and change your vision to His.

“Lord, I need a new vision, help me to see things differently...things like....”

Engaging in this section will help you to study the Bible on your own and get the most out of our time together in groups. Set aside some time over the week to read the above passage in your own Bible and follow the instructions below.

I. Prayer

ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY.

II. Observation

WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

1. Write 10 or more observations about the passage:
 - **Who** are the main people?
 - **Who** is speaking? **Who** is the audience?

 - **What** is occurring?
 - **When** is this happening?

 - **Where** is the passage taking place?
 - **How** are people responding?
2. Identify **key words** and phrases.
3. Look for **grammatical connections**: repetition, comparisons, contrasts, a cause and effect (e.g., words like therefore, because, so that, etc.)?
4. Note **verb tense**.
5. Look for **conjunctions** such as *since* and, *therefore*. Why are those words in the sentence?
6. What relevant things do you know or wonder about the **cultural context** of the passage?

To know the context of your passage, you may need to read the pages or paragraphs that precede it. Find some background information here:

Biblestudytools.com | *Overviewbible.com* | *bibleproject.com* | *Logos.com*

III. Interpretation

WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?

1. Develop some **questions** based on the text. Ask what the significance of your main observations and why they happened.

EXAMPLE:

a. Compare and contrast this 'new place' with our current world

2. **Answer** the questions from the text and the context.
3. Imagine the **perspective** of the people in the scene.
How would they understand what's being said/done?
4. Try to **summarize** the passage in one sentence.
What is the **main point** the author is communicating to the audience?
5. What is revealed about God? About us? About how God relates to us?
6. What is revealed about God's Kingdom; the way God rules or cares for creation?
(Characteristics, value system, etc.)

IV. Application

WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN FOR US/ME?

1. How do you **respond** to what the passage is saying?
Does it challenge how you see the world?
2. Is there a central **truth** that you need to put into practice or align with?
3. What are the implications for you or your **community**?
4. Pray that God will help you believe and align.
Leave room to experience the ministry of the Holy Spirit.