

For September 18 to September 24

Candles #2b: Supplemental Study

Getting Started

Describe the most amazing sight you have ever seen. What was it that thrilled you most about it?

Read the Text Together

Revelation 1:1-20

Discussion

How does **v. 3** describe the one who reads aloud this book and the ones who hear? Does this still apply today? Do you feel blessed right now? What do you think **v. 3** means?

According to **v. 4-6**, who is this book written to and who is it from? Is it only written to this group, or is it also for us? Explain your answer.

According to **v. 6**, what three things does Jesus do for us? Explain all three. How does it make you feel knowing this is true?

v. 12 says John turned around and saw a vision of Jesus (**v. 12-16**). What did John see? Make a list. Are these descriptions literal or symbolic or both? Why?

The vision of Jesus was clearly overwhelming. What does John say he did when he saw the vision? Is this how you would respond? If this is a true depiction of Jesus, do you think we are worshiping Him with appropriate reverence? Why or why not? Should we also fall on our faces in His presence or does that eventually become a phony ritual? How should we approach Jesus?

Did Jesus want John to be afraid? What does this say about Jesus and His awesome presence? How does Jesus describe Himself in **v. 17,18**? Do you think these words brought courage to John? Do they bring courage to you?

Wrap Up

Have you ever had an experience where you strongly felt the presence of God or Jesus or the Holy Spirit and it caused you to want to fall on your face before Him? What were the circumstances? Is this an experience we need to have from time to time? Is such a revelation something that only happens when God decides, or are there things we must do to be ready for God's presence? Explain.

Would you describe your approach to worship as a reverent approach? Do you think the corporate worship that takes place at the Forest Lake Church is reverent by your definition? What is the role of culture and individual preference in worship and reverence? Can it be different?

How will you change your approach to worship as a result of this study?