

GROUPS

Week of 3-14-21

The following group discussion topics are from the first message in the series: "The End Times" at Stockbridge Community Church and was presented by Campus Pastor Chris Woodson.

ICEBREAKER (If your group needs it) Let's start our meeting with a brief recap of highlights. What is the best thing that has happened in your life since our last meeting?

#1 The thing to keep in mind through our discussion of some pretty heavy and saddening topics today is the hope that we as Christians have in the salvation Jesus has given us. There is hope, just the same, for the promise of salvation to all by accepting Christ as savior. Today, we will break down what happens after Jesus has come back and delivered the church. What happens next? (HAVE A BIBLE HANDY) Let's take a moment and read Revelation 6:2

FOLLOW UP In that passage, the first of four "horsemen" is revealed as the antichrist. Notice that his weapon is a bow, but he carries no arrows. This indicates that while he is very powerful - he is not all-powerful. **Let's speculate for a moment - based on his genius level intellect, religious charisma, speaking ability and strength - what are some ways you believe someone like that would take control of the people and nations of the world?**

#2 In Daniel chapter 9, it is prophesied that the antichrist will form a treaty of peace that will be for seven years. In 3.5 years, that treaty will be broken and he will command that only he be worshipped. The devil is very skilled at this isn't he? The promises of sin and temptation sound amazing, until they don't. The repercussions of giving in and going along with a crowd who is caught up in sinful behavior can be devastating. **What might some examples be of sinful living that on the outside, only has benefits - but has terrible consequences later?**

#3 After the white horse has arrived, the second follows soon after. Let's read Revelation 6:4

FOLLOW UP Historically, this rider on the red horse has been referred to as “War.” We’ve seen and heard about terrible wars - they are minor in comparison. Many scholars believe this red horse and rider will be the fulfillment of Ezekiel’s prophecies of war in the Middle East as Israel is attacked by enemies on all sides. War will be an everyday event for the second half of this 7 year period. **Imagine a time where war completely dominates the globe. What effects might that have on things like the global economy, and even just day-to-day family life?**

#4 The third and fourth riders will be on a black horse (famine) and a pale horse (sickness and death) and bring forth sickness, death, famine and minimal crop and food production. We all know what it’s like to be “hangry.” When you are so hungry you’re angry. Imagine a day where a full day’s wage would only be enough to feed you (not your spouse, kids, etc.) for one day because food was so scarce and expensive that a day’s worth is all you could purchase. Imagining that level of starvation is a very unsettling feeling. Let’s pause for a moment and read John 6:35.

GROUP CHALLENGE People are starving and sick all around us, right now today. They are spiritually starving and ill. As Christians, we know the bread of life that Jesus spoke of in that verse and we have the hope of a future that is brighter than the times we’ve been talking about. Sunday at SCC the Love Week catalog was released for sign-ups. The challenge is to choose one of the daily events to do as a group. By doing this we can give people a chance to join us for Easter and receive an opportunity for a better life through Christ. (Decide on an event, or at the very least encourage the group to serve on their own when they have a day or evening available).

2021 Daily Declarations This year at SCC we are being called to recite our daily declarations. Does anyone know them by heart? Want to try and recite them for the group?

I am a Christian that connects with God daily through prayer.

I am a Christian that grows by reading the Bible and connecting with God’s people.

I am a Christian that serves in my church and my community.

I am a Christian that shares my faith and resources generously.

I am a Christian that exists to give people an opportunity for a better life through Christ.

Closing Prayer/Requests:

Announcements/Next Steps: Baptism is taking place soon! Sign-up with your group leader today to be baptized on March 28th!

