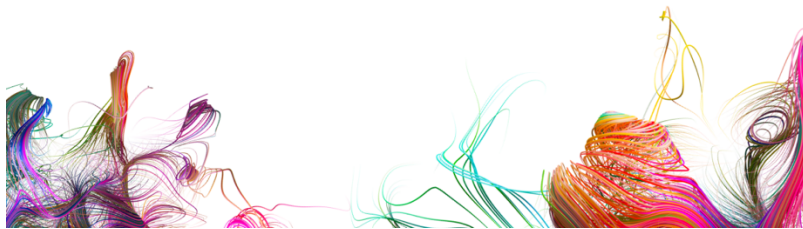


REVELATION

FINDING PEACE IN A
WORLD OF CHAOS




city
AWAKENING
C · H · U · R · C · H

Week 2: A Revelation of Jesus

Date: Week of 1/14/24

Scripture: Revelation 1:9-20

Bridgebuilder Opening

1. Everybody goes through afflictions in life. We don't like going through afflictions, but we can't escape the inevitable, which is that we'll go through afflictions in life. The only thing worse than having to go through an affliction, is having to go through an affliction without having any hope. What is one of the worse afflictions you've ever been through in life? What helped you get through that affliction?

Observations and Interpretations

1. Read Revelation 1:9-20, and circle or highlight any words that stand out to you. What are some of your observations from this initial reading of the text?
2. These verses give us a little more context about John and his audience. Discuss the following questions as a group:
 - Where does John say he was when he wrote this letter, and why was he there?
 - What are John and his readers going through? What are they *partners* in?
3. This is the 1st of several visions John describes in the book of Revelation. What is John's vision describing, and why would it be encouraging to his readers as they face *afflictions*?
4. Read vs. 13-18 and discuss as a group what these images are implying about Jesus?

5. How did this vision of Jesus affect John? How does Jesus respond to John, and what does this response teach us about Jesus?

6. What in this text declares that Jesus is greater than our greatest afflictions? Where in your life do you need to apply these declarations, so you can have hope in your afflictions?

7. What is the main thing John is trying to teach us in these verses?

Applications

1. This year our church is focusing on the theme of helping to bring *peace* into our lives and city. How can this text help give you *peace*, as you live in a world of chaos?

2. In one sentence, state one thing the Lord wants you to take away from this study?

The Gospel and Prayer

No matter what we're facing in life, we can always find hope in Jesus. Jesus faced painful afflictions on the cross for our sins, but his resurrection has proven that his hope can't ever be extinguished even by the affliction of death. He's greater than our greatest afflictions! So as a group let's pray for whatever personal afflictions we feel comfortable sharing. Let's ask Jesus to help us see the hope John saw in Revelation 1, and to fill our empty cups with hope in him again.