



Maranatha Weekly Study Guide - 1/27/21



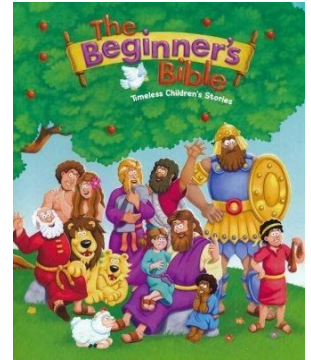
If anyone in your family needs a Bible, please contact the office, kingsfordag@yahoo.com or call 774-7631, ext. 7.

An important lesson this week: What does God encourage us to do when so many bad things are happening?

READ & DISCUSS: Last week we read about Jesus returning to Heaven when his time on Earth was done. The story continues this week as we find out what Jesus' friends did to continue with God's plan without Jesus on Earth with them...

Read: Acts 2 and/or "The Holy Spirit Comes" in *The Beginner's Bible* pgs 473-479.

- What were the disciples doing in Jerusalem?
- Was Jesus with them?
- What did they notice happening when The Holy Spirit appeared to them?
- Were the believers in Jesus the only ones that noticed The Holy Spirit appear?
- Why wasn't Peter completely surprised by speaking in other languages?
- What did Peter tell them about God's plan?
- Why were so many people ready to believe in Jesus?
- What did Peter tell them to do if they believed?



Pastor Dave is teaching the adults how God wants us to live during these days, just like the disciples lived in Acts 2. The Holy Spirit will give us strength to live out God's plan while we wait for Jesus to come back again.

MEMORIZE: John 14:3, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

There's a link on Maranatha Family's Facebook page or Type this into your internet browser to sing the verse:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8CpNrH6z-7U>

HAVE FUN: The sound of a rushing wind! Find someone to play a game with you.

Ask if you can blindfold them and have them bundle up in a blanket so just their head is out of the blanket. Then try to create enough air movement that the person hears the sound of the wind. What did you observe?

Switch places and let them try to create sound with wind while you are blindfolded and bundled up.

APPLY IT: Practice.

Pray with someone and ask The Holy Spirit to reveal Himself to someone who needs to hear God's plan that Jesus came to save everyone.

Keep praying and watch for God to show you that The Holy Spirit has prepared someone to believe.

Practice sharing God's plan with your friends and family.

If they already believe and have a relationship with Jesus, you can ask them to pretend they don't understand how much Jesus loves them to help you practice sharing with those who don't believe.

Be prepared to share God's plan of forgiveness and encourage any new believer to be baptised so they can show everyone in their life that they have accepted God's love for them and will live differently to honor God.

CHALLENGE:

Where else in The Bible can we find God revealing himself through fire and wind?

Please share your thoughts with our church family by sending us a letter, email, phone call, or on Facebook.

Reading Revelation – Part 2

January 27, 2021

Text – Revelation 1:1-6

The Literary Nature of Revelation

- The book of Revelation is a _____, containing up to _____ distinct kinds of literature.

Kinds of Literature in Revelation

- Revelation is an _____.
- Revelation is a _____.
- Revelation is a _____.
- Revelation is a _____.
- Revelation is a _____.

Revelation's Structure

- The Opening Vision of the Risen Lord and His Seven Pastoral-Prophetic Messages (Chapters 1-3).
 - The Vision of the Risen Lord (1:1-20).
 - His Seven Pastoral-Prophetic Messages (2:1-3:22).
- The Central and Centering Vision of God and the Lamb (Chapters 4-5).
 - Catching the Vision (4:1-5:14).
- Visions of the Judgment of God with Interludes (Chapters 6-20).
 - Who can Stand (6:1-8:1)?
 - Last Call – Repent (8:2-11:19)
 - A Battle for Souls (12:1-14:20)
 - Come Down, Angels (15:1-16:21)
 - A Need for Wisdom (17:1-19:10)
 - The Last Battle (19:11-21:8)
- The final Vision of the New Creation (Chapters 21-22)
 - God with Us (21:9-22:21).

A Basic Guide for Reading the Book of Revelation

What not to do:

- Don't avoid the book. It contains essential teachings that will help us live faithfully in our hostile world.
- Don't limit the scope of the book to the last of the Last days. The Last days are a very long time, beginning with Christ's resurrection and the Spirit's outpouring, concluding with the Second Coming of Christ and the Final Judgment.
- Don't interpret the book through today's headlines. Headlines change, changing our interpretation of the book.

The basics of reading the book:

- Revelation has a meaning that was understood by its original listeners. That meaning is what the Holy Spirit inspired. We must base our study of the book on discerning the original meaning of the book to determine applications for today.
- We must hold tightly to the big picture. Though the visions have numerous intriguing details, we will lose sight of the message by obsessing over the details.

Remember the four main themes:

- The empire and the Church are on a collision course.
- Regardless of appearances, God is in control of all things.
- Tribulation is something the Church will continue to endure until the end of the age.
- God's wrath is His judgment on those who afflict His people.

Engage the Five Kinds of Literature:

- Revelation is an *apocalypse*.
 - The purpose of apocalyptic literature is to sustain God's people during times of crisis.
- Revelation is a *prophecy*.
 - This is a prophetic word to the churches of Asia Minor, calling compromising believers to repent and comforting the faithful with the hope of God's justice and vindication.
- Revelation is a *pastoral letter*.
 - The whole of the book was written to strengthen these seven churches, equipping them to remain faithful in life and witness in a hostile world.
- Revelation is a *worship handbook*.
 - The entire book contains elements of worship and prayer, providing us a picture of the constant worship in the heavenly throne room. When we worship, we are joining an ongoing chorus of heavenly praise.
- Revelation is a *theopolitical text*.
 - It addresses the concerns that faithful believers have about the evils of this age demonstrated in systems and persons of power.
 - It challenges the worldly powers' (the state and heads of states) claims to sacred status.
 - It encourages believers not to mix allegiance to Christ with allegiance to state or its leaders.