

# *This Is ~~Not~~ The End*

Group Discussion Guide // Week 4

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## WARM-UP

1. What were some high points for you this week? What were some low points?
  2. Give three ways you'd love to see the world become better.
  3. Who do you think has the ability to make the world better? Who has the ability to make the world worse?
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## TRUTH

Last week we finished the letters addressed to the seven churches and now we're moving on to John's next revelation. What happens in John's next vision is just as important as where it happens – God's throne room in heaven. When decisions are made in the Oval Office, those decisions carry the weight of the president. When decisions are made in God's throne room, they carry the weight of the Ruler of the universe. Needless to say, what's about to happen in the throne room is important.

### The Scroll

Read Revelation 5:1-5

The sealed scroll represents the Old Testament message of the prophets. It's the plan for how God's kingdom is going to come on earth as it is in heaven. A lot hangs on it, so we can understand why John weeps when no one is found who can open it at first. John's weeping doesn't last long though. The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered and he will be able to open the scroll.

- ▶ Read Isaiah 11:1-5. What do we learn about the Root of David from these verses?

### The Lamb

Read Revelation 5:6-10

When the Lion of Judah and the Root of David is announced, the last thing John probably expected to see was a slain Lamb. It's even stranger that this Lamb is standing up. This Lamb is Jesus Christ, and he can both stand and look slain because he died on a cross and rose from the dead. We don't

think of being slain as conquering, but the blood of Jesus accomplished a pivotal part of God's kingdom being realized – rescuing sinful humans from their sin.

- ▶ What do you think a “kingdom and priests to our God” might look like? What are these people doing as priests?

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## GRACE

### Every Creature

Read Revelation 5:11-14

Notice how praise for God and the Lamb is growing. It begins with the elders, then the elders and living creatures and thousands of thousands of angels, and finally “every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea” erupts with worship to God and the Lamb. What Jesus did through his death and resurrection is so momentous that all of creation is overcome with praise. The work of Jesus is the pivot in God's plan to make his kingdom a reality, so we should worship him with everything we have.

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## CHANGE

1. Do you struggle to believe that God has a plan to bring his kingdom on earth as it is in heaven? Why or why not?
2. How does the reality that Jesus died to “ransom” people for God influence your view of sin and brokenness in the world?
3. What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

Pray for a heart to worship the Lamb that was slain, and pray that God's kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven.