

Community Group Questions
Revelation 17

Opening question: Take a favorite hobby of yours or something else you enjoy doing or a sport you like watching. How would you explain that to someone who knows nothing about it?

Scripture study

- Read Revelation 17:1-6a. What does John see? What language are you able to understand, and what is more difficult to understand? What do we know of this woman? What do we know of this beast (compare with Revelation chapter 13:1-8)?
- Why might the reference to the woman being a prostitute a picture of spiritual immorality and not what we might think of as sexual immorality? Compare with these other passages; Ezekiel 16:8-15; Hosea 4:9-12; James 4:4-10. Why is spiritual immorality such an affront to God?
- Read 17:5 again. What does this title suggest? What do we know about Babylon from other Scriptures; Genesis 11:3-9; Jeremiah 50:1-3; 51:7-8,17-24? What does idolatry look like in our country?
- Read Revelation 17:8-14. Make some observations about these verses. What is the mathematical sequence seen here? What is said of the 8th king and compare with 17:8; 13:3? What is significant about verses 15-18?
- Application: How is chapter 17 a warning to us today? In what way can false religion be an opium of people? How can we guard against the subtle shift of our faith becoming a religious activity?