



Life Group
Discussion
Guide

6/7/2026

DISSIDENT DISCIPLE

*Living the Vision
of Revelation*



Sermon Summary: This sermon on Revelation 1 challenges us to see the Book of Revelation not as a cryptic code about the future, but as an "unveiling" that helps us see where Jesus is in our present chaos and suffering. John, exiled on the island of Patmos during Roman persecution, receives a powerful vision of the risen Christ standing among the seven lampstands (the churches)—not distant or detached, but present in the midst of their pain. The vision reveals Jesus as the eternal priest, the Ancient of Days, whose voice thunders above all earthly powers and who holds the keys to death and Hades in His hands. When John falls in terror, Jesus places His hand on him and says, "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last...I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore." The sermon invites us to turn our eyes to Jesus not so the world grows "strangely dim," but so it becomes "fully clear"—teaching us to ask not just "What is this?" when facing cancer, war, division, or failure, but "Where is Jesus in this?" The answer: He is the living One who stands with us and gets the final word over every fear and tragedy.

Conversation Starter: What's one way you've seen God show up in the small, everyday moments of your life this week—maybe through a conversation, a moment of peace, or an unexpected blessing?

Prayer: Risen Lord, You are the first and the last, the living One who stands among us even now. As we gather in Your presence, place Your hand upon us and speak peace to our fears, that we might see You more clearly in every circumstance of our lives. Amen.

Read Scripture together: Revelation 1:9-18

3-Question Study Method

Use this method to understand the passage.

1. What is the passage about?
2. What do I learn about God?
3. What is the lesson I learn that I can apply to my life?

Discussion Questions:

- When you hear the word “apocalypse” or think about the Book of Revelation, what images or feelings come to mind? How does understanding apocalypse as an “unveiling” rather than a code to crack reshape your perspective?
- In Revelation 1:12–16, John describes Jesus with vivid imagery—blazing eyes, a voice like rushing waters, holding stars, and a sword from His mouth. What does this vision reveal about Jesus’ authority, power, and presence? How is this different from how you typically picture Him?
- John “fell at His feet as though dead” when he encountered the risen Jesus (v. 17). Why do you think the presence of Jesus can be both awe-inspiring and comforting at the same time? Have you experienced moments like that in your own faith journey?
- Jesus says, “I hold the keys of death and Hades” (v. 18). How does His authority over death and fear shape the way we face suffering, uncertainty, or grief in today’s world?
- The sermon emphasized that Jesus stands among His churches in the midst of Babylon—not far removed from pain and brokenness. How does knowing Jesus is present within the chaos of our world change the way you respond to division, suffering, or hardship around us?
- Jesus declares that He is “the First and the Last,” “the Living One,” and the one who holds the keys (vv. 17–18). Which of these truths do you most need to hold onto right now, and why?
- As we close, reflect on this question: Where in your life do you need to stop asking, “What is this?” and begin asking, “Where is Jesus in this?”

Memory Verse: Revelation 1:17-18a "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever!"

Closing Prayer: Loving God, open our eyes to see Jesus clearly—not just in the mountaintop moments, but standing with us in the valleys of fear, pain, and uncertainty. Help us hear Your voice saying "Do not be afraid," and give us courage to fix our eyes on the One who holds all things, including us, in His hands. Amen.