

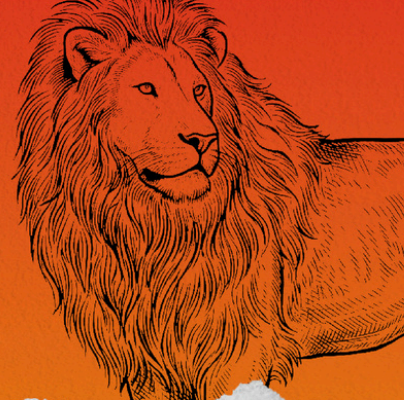


Life Group  
Discussion  
Guide

7/05/2026

# DISSIDENT DISCIPLE

*Living the Vision  
of Revelation*



Sermon Summary: In Revelation 13, John describes two beasts that imitate God's power and authority, presenting a counterfeit version of worship that appears attractive and convincing. Rather than focusing on identifying a specific person or predicting future events, Pastor Tara Beth challenged us to consider how worldly powers, loyalties, and influences can subtly shape our hearts away from Jesus. The central question of the sermon was not, "Can we identify the Beast?" but rather, "Would we know if we were worshipping it?" John calls believers to use wisdom, not merely to gain knowledge, but to discern who they are becoming and what kind of fruit is being produced in their lives. The way of the Beast produces division, bitterness, pride, and the pursuit of power, while the way of the Lamb is marked by humility, forgiveness, sacrifice, and love. As followers of Christ, we are invited to examine the things we consume, trust, and remain loyal to, asking whether they are forming us into the image of the Lamb or deforming us into the image of the Beast.

Conversation Starter: Think about yourself five or ten years ago. In what ways are you most different today? What do you think contributed to those changes?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You are the Lamb who was slain and yet lives forever. Give us wisdom to recognize the voices, loyalties, and influences that compete for our devotion. Search our hearts and reveal anything that is shaping us away from Your character. Form us into people who reflect Your love, humility, forgiveness, and grace. Amen.

Read Scripture together: Revelation 13: 1-18

## 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:

- Pastor Tara Beth suggested that the Beast represents worldly powers and influences that imitate God's authority while opposing His ways. What examples of "counterfeit" sources of security, identity, or hope do you see in our culture today?
- The sermon emphasized that the Beast often looks appealing—even good—at first glance. Why do you think counterfeit versions of faith can be so attractive?
- John tells believers to use wisdom in discerning the Beast. Pastor Tara Beth described biblical wisdom not simply as information, but as a way of life shaped by Jesus. How would you define wisdom, and where do you see a need for greater spiritual discernment in your own life?
- Read Matthew 7:24–27 and Matthew 7:15–20. How do Jesus' teachings about foundations and fruit help us evaluate the influences shaping our lives?
- The sermon challenged us to ask, "Who am I becoming?" What habits, media, relationships, or commitments are currently having the greatest influence on your character? Are they producing the fruit of the Spirit or something else?
- Pastor Tara Beth contrasted the way of the Beast with the way of the Lamb:
  - The Beast conquers through power; the Lamb conquers through sacrifice.
  - The Beast creates enemies; the Lamb seeks reconciliation.
  - The Beast holds grudges; the Lamb forgives.

*Which of these contrasts speaks most directly to your life right now? Why?*

- What practical step could you take this week to more intentionally align your life with the way of the Lamb rather than the patterns of the world?

Memory Verse: Romans 12:2 (NIV) "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Closing Prayer: Father, thank You for revealing Yourself through Jesus, the true Lamb of God. Guard us from counterfeit allegiances that promise life but lead us away from You. Give us wisdom to discern what is shaping our hearts. Produce in us the fruit of Your Spirit and help us become people marked by love, forgiveness, humility, and faithfulness. May our lives point others to Jesus. Amen.