Small Group Leader's Guide:
Revelation 10 – What Are You Waiting For?

Main Idea: While we wait for Jesus to return, God calls us to take His Word to heart, recognize His patience as an opportunity, and live and speak His truth faithfully.

Leader Preparation: Keep the discussion centered on how we respond to God's Word while awaiting Jesus' return. Allow several people to contribute, and leave time for a specific personal response at the end.



Know It

1. Take His Word to Heart (The Whole Bible)

Read Revelation 10:8–10

1. John was instructed to eat the scroll. What does this picture teach us about the difference between simply reading God's Word and taking it to heart?

2. The scroll tasted sweet but became bitter in John's stomach. When has a passage of Scripture encouraged you while also confronting something difficult in your life?

3. Why is it important to receive the whole counsel of Scripture, including passages that challenge us? What habit could help you become more receptive and obedient to God's Word this week?

Leadership Tips:

1. **Explain the picture of eating the scroll.** Receiving God's message involves taking it into our lives so that it shapes our thinking, desires, and actions. Ezekiel 2:8–3:3 provides a helpful background to this imagery. Encourage the group to identify what obedience looks like beyond acquiring Bible knowledge.

2. **Help the group understand both sweetness and bitterness.** God's message brings the sweetness of His truth and promises, but its announcements of judgment carry sorrow and weight. Invite personal examples of encouragement and conviction without pressuring anyone to disclose private struggles.

3. **Move toward a practical Scripture habit.** Help participants identify one manageable step: reading a whole passage in context, including unfamiliar books in their reading, or asking, "What does this passage call me to believe or obey?" Emphasize receiving what Scripture says even when it challenges our preferences.

2. Recognize His Patience as an Opportunity

Read Revelation 10:5–7 and 2 Peter 3:8–10

1. Peter explains that God's apparent delay reflects His patience. How does that change the way we understand the time before Jesus returns?

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2. How have you experienced God's patience when you needed to repent or respond to Him?

3. Revelation announces that the delay will end. Knowing that God's patience gives people an opportunity to repent, what response have you been putting off—personally or in reaching someone who needs Jesus?

Leadership Tips:

1. **Keep God's patience and His promised judgment together.** Peter teaches that God has not forgotten His promise; He is patient and calls people to repentance. Revelation 10 reminds us that His purposes will reach completion. Keep the focus on responding faithfully rather than calculating dates.

2. **Invite gratitude through personal testimony.** Briefly share an appropriate example of God's patience in your own life to help others participate. Make clear that patience does not mean God approves of sin; it gives us an opportunity to turn from it.

3. **Encourage a specific response without creating pressure.** Help participants name an action they can take this week, such as confessing sin, reconciling with someone, or initiating a gospel conversation. Encourage prayer for a person who needs Jesus, while respecting anyone who prefers to keep names private.

3. Live and Speak His Truth Faithfully

Read Revelation 10:11 and 2 Peter 3:11–18

1. Peter connects Christ's return with holy conduct and godliness. What should change in our everyday priorities if we truly believe Jesus is coming again?

2. Peter warns that people twist Scripture and urges believers to be on guard. What practices help us recognize when a teaching takes Scripture out of context or changes its meaning?

3. John was commissioned to speak God's message, and Peter calls us to grow in grace and knowledge. Where is God giving you an opportunity this week to demonstrate His truth through your conduct and share it through your words?

Leadership Tips

1. **Connect future hope with everyday faithfulness.** Direct attention to Peter's emphasis on holiness, godliness, peace, and growth. Invite concrete examples involving relationships, integrity, time, and priorities. Help the group see that awaiting Jesus should shape how we live today.

2. **Teach discernment with humility.** Peter acknowledges that some passages are difficult; difficulty itself does not mean someone is twisting Scripture. Encourage participants to read surrounding verses, consider the author's argument, compare related passages, and seek trustworthy help. Keep the conversation focused on evaluating teachings by Scripture rather than criticizing personalities.

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3. **Connect John's commission to the group's responsibility carefully.** John received a specific prophetic commission. Believers today can apply the call to faithfulness by sharing the gospel and communicating Scripture accurately. Encourage participants to identify a natural opportunity to speak about Jesus with both truth and grace.



Live It

Application

Give everyone a moment to complete this sentence:

"Because God is patiently giving me this opportunity, this week I will _____."

Leader Guidance: Invite brief responses so several people can participate. Encourage an action specific enough to follow up on at the next meeting.



Prayer

Prayer

Pray that God will help the group receive His whole Word, respond with repentance, grow in grace and knowledge, and speak faithfully to people who need Jesus.