BIBLE STUDY LEADER NOTES



Dear Bible study leader,

I'm excited that you are leading a group of women through *Come Lord Jesus: A Woman's Walk—Spirit, Body & Soul—Through the Book of Revelation*! You can feel confident as you set out on this journey. Some people shy away from studying the book of Revelation, but is that what the Lord intended? Second Timothy 3:16 states, "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness." God's Word makes it clear that all Scripture is for our growth in godliness, and the book of Revelation is no exception.

Revelation identifies itself six times as prophecy. Chuck Swindoll points out, "The primary purpose of prophecy is not knowledge, but obedience."[1] Revelation itself teaches the same idea in its first and last chapters, "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near" (1:3; see also 22:7). What we learn from Revelation about the Second Coming of Christ is not just for our speculation on signs of the times. Christ calls believers to obey its message in our lives today. As God's people, we are blessed through heeding the Lord's words. So, lead on in confidence! You will help many women grow in faithfulness and hope through the study of this book.

You will find Leader Notes for each lesson of this study, which include:

Lesson Emphasis: This section of the Bible study leader notes will provide a short summary of the emphasis for the week's lesson.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: If you offer a teaching segment as part of your Bible study, this section of the leader notes will give you some teaching ideas. It will point you toward finding teaching themes related to the big idea of that particular week's lesson. Additionally, though not mentioned in each lesson's leader notes, one of the most effective teaching focuses is to lead the participants through the whole chapter(s) section by section, if time permits.

Engagement Activities: Encourage your group to engage with the art, worship, witness, and prayer opportunities included in each lesson. These activities will help them live out spirit, body, and soul the truths learned from Revelation's message. In this section, I will point out the engagement activities provided in each lesson and any additional ideas if available.

Building Bible Study Skills: As you go through this study, you can lead your students in learning and practicing Bible study skills. They are woven into each lesson to help participants grow in their ability to study and understand Scripture on their own. This section of the leader notes highlights some of the learning opportunities in the lesson.

Encourage Application: Each lesson's chapter title highlights a compelling point of application. Your teacher notes provide more information on how to motivate your students to apply what they learn.

---

[1] Charles Swindoll, *Insights on Revelation*, 321.

Watch the Teaching Video: After your group has completed their study and discussion, there are teaching videos for all 16 lessons of *Come Lord Jesus*. Email nancygemaehlich.author@gmail.com for the access code.

Leader Tip: Consider gathering with your group before you begin the study to decorate journals that each woman can use for prayer and for recording special activities throughout the study. A video is also available that highlights the author's 2019 trip to the island of Patmos, along with a Patmos Group Kit, which could be useful for a pre-study gathering/kick-off. If you are interested in these Patmos resources, contact the author at nancygemaehlich.author@gmail.com.

Additionally, there is a timeline included for your use on page 56 of the Bible study.

Blessings on your journey!

Nancy Gemaehlich

Recommended Supplemental Leader/Teaching Materials

Insights on Revelation by Charles Swindoll, Tyndale House, 2013

Revelation, by John F. Walvoord, Mark Hitchcock, and Philip E. Rawley, Moody Publishers, 2011

Online commentary on the book of Revelation," by David Guzik, Enduring Word, www.enduringword.com/#commentary.

BibleHub.com for online Bible study tools

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Mapping Our Journey"
Background
Lesson 1

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 1, "Mapping our Journey," emphasizes the need to understand and get a feel for the background information that helps participants to study Revelation properly. In the lesson, they realize that John, the author, was a human being growing in a personal relationship with Jesus. Also, they learn that under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, John wrote Revelation to a specific audience living in a particular time and culture. Additionally, the participants look at Revelation's genre or type of writing. All of this background information helps the participants understand God's purpose in giving us this message.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching presentation focus could be a more in-depth teaching on the background of the apostle John. Beginning with the Scripture references from the lesson on pages 2-3, the teacher could develop John's story further. A focus on John's growth could encourage discussion about our maturing in Christ.

An additional teaching focus could be to teach more about the first-century church and the culture at the time. A Bible encyclopedia or a Bible dictionary, as well as commentaries, provide us with this information. The participants could engage in answering the question: *If you were living in the first century as a believer, how impactful might it be to receive a prophecy from the risen Lord through John*? *How might it help you?* This teaching topic would tie-in well with the questions in the section titled "Purpose" on page 7.

Engagement Activities: During your discussion time, ask the women to share their reactions to the symbols listed at the top of page 6, number 7. Time permitting, you could additionally ask them to draw a symbol of their choosing. Then have some of the women take turns sharing their symbol with the group. See if the others can guess at the meaning of the symbol. Discuss the power of symbols to communicate the things or feelings that they represent. Revelation contains dynamic symbols that relate to actual persons, places, things, etc.

Building Bible Study Skills: You can point out to your participants that it is vital in Bible study that we first understand what the original author was communicating to his audience before we try to understand what it means to us today. This step is essential; otherwise, we could make the Scripture say and mean whatever seems right to us.

Encourage Application: A valuable application for this lesson is for the women to *simply complete* the whole background study in Lesson 1. In this way, they are laying a good foundation that will help them comprehend the book of Revelation better.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Sharing Our Faith"
Revelation Chapter 1
Lesson 2

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 2, "Sharing Our Faith," emphasizes believers being faithful witnesses of Christ. In Revelation 1 we see this theme: The apostle John is commissioned to testify to the truth that is in Jesus Christ (1:1-2); we learn in the first and the last chapter of Revelation that those who *heed* the words of this prophecy as faithful witnesses will be blessed (Rev. 1:3; 22:7); and Christ also reveals Himself as a faithful witness of God's work (1:5). Revelation chapter 1 covers the Revelation of Jesus Christ to the apostle John, as well as John's commission to testify of it to the Lord's bond-servants, including Christ's messages to the seven churches in Asia Minor.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teacher presentation could focus on witnessing. Ask someone with experience in evangelism to do a presentation on how to prepare and share a testimony of Christ's saving work. Or, you can study an evangelism resource together as a group.

A second focus could be teaching the *importance* of sharing what the Lord has done in each of our lives. In Revelation 1, the lampstands symbolize the church, which is to shed light to the world.

Lastly, you could teach regarding the Holy Spirit's work in empowering believers to be a light in the world. The Spirit is mentioned in 1:4, 10, and is possibly implied in the images of "fire" related to Christ (1:14-16).

Engagement Activities: From question 3 on page 12, you could ask the women to work in teams and share what they wrote as their testimony of Jesus Christ. If time permits, they could practice sharing it with a partner, as if the other person were unsaved.

An additional engagement activity could be for the women to turn to a partner and speak 1:6 (personalized) to each other, "And He has made you, _____, to be a kingdom…."

Building Bible Study Skills: When studying Revelation in particular, it's essential to use cross-references to help you understand the sequences and symbols. The Old Testament especially sheds light on much of Revelation's symbolism. Encourage your participants to look up cross-references as they study and consider practicing this Bible study tool together.

Encourage Application: Ask the participants to continue writing and practicing at home how they could testify about Christ, including what He has done in their lives. If they are keeping a journal for the study, they can add this to it.

*You may want to arrange an opportunity for your Bible study group to go witnessing together at the end of the study. Keep it simple for those new to sharing their faith.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Overcoming in Christ"
Revelation Chapter 2
Lesson 3

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 3, "Overcoming in Christ," is about being overcomers**.** Christ, who walks among the lampstands and holds the stars in His hands, knows every aspect of His church. In chapters 2-3, He commended the churches and called them to repentance for their benefit and God's glory. An exhortation that He spoke to all seven churches was to "overcome." As His people, Christ urges us to be steadfast, to avoid a waning love, a fearful heart, an embracing of false teaching, or an engagement in immorality. As Christ's body, we overcome because we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths the Lord Jesus Christ—our sins have been washed by the blood of the Lamb (Rom. 10:9; 1 John 5:4-5). We steadfastly follow after our Lord. Revelation chapter 2 covers Christ's messages to the first four churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, and Thyatira.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: You could teach what Scripture says about living as an overcomer.

Another idea is to teach how intimately Christ knows us as individuals and as His church, and how the Lord both encourages *and* disciplines us for our good and His glory.

Engagement Activities: As the participants learn about being overcomers, on pages 26, 29, they are asked to pray for strength. Though they have probably done this at home, they can pray again with the group.

You could also have the women trace one of their hands and write four or five overcomer characteristics on the fingers. They could then cut it out and tape it into their books or journals to reflect on as they study through Revelation. The theme of believers as overcomers is emphasized by the Lord at the introduction and closing of Revelation.

Another idea is to use a whiteboard divided into two columns. In one column, list Christ's commendations to the first four churches and his corrections in the other column.

Building Bible Study Skills: Making lists is an excellent way to summarize what the author teaches. For example, lists can include attributes to walk in or things to avoid, the fruit of the Spirit, steps for prayer, etc. As mentioned above, chapter two of Revelation lends itself to listing Christ's commendations and corrections, which adds clarity to the study.

Encourage Application: On pages 25-26, numbers 7 & 8, the women will write down and pray over one way to revive what they used to do out of their first love for Christ. They can then begin to implement the change. If they keep a journal, this would be a helpful way to track their efforts to revive their first love.

You could also ask them to choose one commendation or correction to the churches that they want to personally put into practice or to repent of in the coming week.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Returning to the Lord"
Revelation Chapter 3
Lesson 4

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 4, "Returning to the Lord," emphasizes the value of self-examination and repentance—returning to the Lord. Most of the churches that Christ has addressed needed to take stock of areas of their practices or relationship with Christ. He calls them to reckon with these harmful attitudes and to turn back to obedience and fellowship with Him.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching presentation could focus on what Scripture says about the need for repentance, how to practice it, and the blessings that come with it.

Another teaching idea could focus on what Scripture says about the Lord correcting those who are His because He loves them.

Engagement Activities: At the top of page 38, the participants will draw a picture representing themselves as washed white as snow. At the top of page 41, they will personalize Revelation 3:12 and speak it to themselves. On page 43, at the bottom, the women will imagine Christ knocking at their door. These multi-sensory activities lead to powerfully engaging the Scriptures and prayer.

Building Bible Study Skills: On page 42, number 7, the women will rewrite Revelation 3:18 in their own words. This lesson would be a good time to share the value of using this Bible study skill. When we put something into our terms, we first have to comprehend its meaning. This skill involves a fair amount of pondering and digesting what we read. This powerful tool helps us internalize, verbalize, and share the truth of Scripture.

Encourage Application: Lesson 4, closes with a challenge for the participants to reflect on what they have learned about Christ as He addressed the churches (pg. 44). Additionally, the participants will identify some possible commendations and corrections that apply to their church. It is important to emphasize that the church, even the local church, is not the building or just the leaders who serve there. It is all of the people who call that church home. This application is not about pointing fingers, but about determining what each person can be praying for or helping with at their church. Please use discretion regarding discussing responses to this question as a group.

If prayer time is part of your study, as I imagine it would be, the women may want to break into teams of two and pray for each other about an area where they personally want to repent and give it to the Lord.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Worshiping with Awe"
Revelation Chapters 4 & 5
Lesson 5

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 5, "Worshiping with Awe," is about our response to God's glory through our worship of Him. God's presence should produce awe and worship for our Maker! Revelation chapters 4 and 5 cover John, in the Spirit, as he goes up to heaven. He sees the glory of the Lord sitting on His throne. John also sees the 24 elders worship God. Then he sees the Lamb who is worthy to open the scroll, which prompts loud, passionate worship from all who are in the throne room!

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching presentation could focus on God's attributes and His worthiness of worship.

Another teaching focus could be Jesus as the Lamb of God, slain from the foundation of the world for our sins.

Lastly, the focus could be on the different ways (praise, lifestyle, using our gifts, giving our time and finances, serving, etc.) we can worship God, as taught in the Bible.

Engagement Activities: On page 50, number 12, participants are asked to close their eyes and imagine, from Scripture's description, what it might have been like to stand in the throne room with John. This activity lets us "place ourselves there," enriching our grasp of what is taking place in Scripture.

Additionally, on pages 53-54, the women will complete Lesson 5 with a time of worship. The authors of these songs were inspired by these two chapters in Revelation. Perhaps your study group could also worship together using these songs.

Building Bible Study Skills: Using your imagination to "place yourself there" is a good Bible study skill. Often, students gain deeper insight into the Scriptures by using this tool. It can help us put ourselves in the person's shoes so we learn the lesson more meaningfully.

Encourage Application: This week's study **includes** two application challenges. The first, on page 48, number 6, asks the women to write one way they will live their lives as an act of worship this week. This challenge would also make a great prayer-time focus. The second challenge is on page 52, number 14. It is for the women to think of a new way to lean into the Lord's strength in their present circumstances.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Standing with Suffering Saints"
Revelation Chapter 6
Lesson 6

Lesson Emphasis: The emphasis in Lesson 6, "Standing with Suffering Saints," is on believers becoming aware of and participating in care for Christians who are suffering and being martyred for their faith. Revelation chapter 6 covers the Lamb of God as He opens the first six seals of judgment. War, famine, and death prevail, and the earth and the cosmos are severely affected. Additionally, it covers the righteous martyrs under the altar in the throne room, who are waiting for God to avenge them. The chapter closes as those on earth try to hide themselves from the judgment of the Lamb. Knowing that the great day of wrath has come, they ask, "Who is able to stand?"

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: The teaching presentation could survey biblical references to the Day of the Lord, particularly from the Old Testament prophets.

Additionally, the focus could be on the contrast between Christians as pilgrims on earth and "earth dwellers," who are entrenched in the world's system.

Another focus could be on church martyrs, past or present, who gave their lives as a testimony.

Engagement Activities: On page 62, the women are asked to draw a scene from Revelation. Encourage even those who haven't done much in the way of artwork to get creative. They can use stickers, shapes, color markers, whatever. It's a chance to use their creative muscles to picture a scene from the Scripture. God is creative and has made us in His image! The group can share their scenes as they are willing.

Additionally, on page 63, the participants can engage in worship. I have supplied a song, but they may want to substitute their own. The goal is to encourage them by praising the Lord.

Building Bible Study Skills: This lesson lends itself to teaching/practicing the Bible study skill of looking for contrasts (The state of being strikingly different from something else in close association[2]). For instance, the Bible uses contrast to show the difference between the righteous and the wicked. Noticing the contrasts that an author uses helps us understand his message. On page 61, questions 8 & 9, there is an opportunity to contrast Jesus' sword with that of the sword of the second apocalyptic horseman (Rev. 6:3-4).

Encourage Application: This week's lesson application appears at the bottom of page 65 and is reiterated at the bottom of page 68. The challenge is to begin supporting a persecuted Christian individual or group. You can apply this through prayer, giving, sending aid, or encouragement. You may want to do this as a group, even if it is a one-time event.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

[2] "Contrast," Oxford Languages.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Exalting the Lamb of God"
Revelation Chapter 7
Lesson 7

Lesson Emphasis: The emphasis of Lesson 7, "Exalting the Lamb of God," is on the greatness of the Lamb of God, especially as seen in His care for His people. Chapter 7 is the first interlude, or parenthesis (a set-apart scene), from the chronological flow of events (see the list of interludes in the page 70 sidebar). In this chapter, the Lord will place His seal of ownership and protection on 144,000 Israelite believers. This implies they will be great witnesses during the Tribulation. After this, we will see a worship scene in the throne room where a vast multitude of martyred saints are extolling God and the Lamb. The chapter closes with a moving portrait of the eternal care that the redeemed will receive through their Shepherd.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching presentation could focus on the eternal promises that the Lord has given His people. Notably, on how He is our good Shepherd into eternity.

Additionally, a teaching focus could be God's promise to restore a righteous remnant of Israel and bring them back to their land.

Engagement Activities: On page 70, the participants will creatively depict a scene from Revelation 7:1-3. This type of engagement helps participants look closely at the details in these verses and ponder them.

Additionally, at the top of page 75, question 10 asks the women to create a list of seven characteristics of God. Then they are encouraged to use those characteristics to exalt Him for His greatness (even with palm leaves!). This active engagement helps participants move from passive to active learners.

Building Bible Study Skills: To better appreciate some of the Bible's symbolism, particularly in the book of Revelation, it helps to learn about ancient Jewish history and culture. Bible dictionaries, commentaries, and study Bibles are useful resources for finding this information. If you, as the leader, have a resource for background and cultural information, you may want to share it with your group.

Encourage Application: For application, have the women finish the week's study on pages 77-78 by extolling the Lord for His care through song or prayer. You could also ask them to set aside a particular time each day for the next 3-5 days to exalt the Lord for His goodness and provision for them—now and forevermore. If they are keeping journals, they can record these times of praise in them.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Praying Before the Lord"
Revelation Chapters 8 & 9
Lesson 8

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 8, "Praying Before the Lord," emphasizes the importance of believer's prayers. Revelation chapters 8 and 9 contain six of the seven trumpet judgments. Through judgment, destruction comes to one-third of His creation in heaven and earth. And still, "mankind…did not repent" (Rev. 9:20-21). In the face of this impending judgment of the ungodly, we see the power of believer's prayers offered to our awesome God (Rev. 8:3-4).

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching presentation focus could be on what Scripture teaches about God's justice. The teaching could also include the necessity of God being just and righteous.

Another possibility is to teach about the privilege of being invited and the seriousness of our Lord's command to pray. Another focus could be the power of believers' prayers.

Another teaching focus could be on the hard-heartedness of humanity and their need to repent and be saved.

Engagement Activities: The following activities help the participants engage in awe for God and prayer (as seen at the beginning of chapter 8). Participants will sit in awe (page 81), consider their prayers ascending before the Lord (page 82), and imagine the Lord's joy as their prayers rise before Him (page 83).

Building Bible Study Skills: Making charts is a helpful Bible study skill. Charts can simplify the information contained in a long narrative/story. Diagrams also make information easier to remember. Additionally, charts can make similarities and differences easier to spot. On page 84, the participants will fill in the table related to the first four trumpet judgments.

Encourage Application: The lesson includes several opportunities for application. The first asks the women to write down and apply scriptural means for defeating Satan's temptations (page 88, number 22). The second application asks participants to map out steps to help them stay pliable in the Lord's hands (page 90, number 25). The closing application, which ties into our chapter title and focuses on prayer, asks participants to spend time in prayer, asking the Lord to keep them from the evil one (page 90, bottom).

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Being Faithful Witnesses"
Revelation Chapters 10 & 11
Lesson 9

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 9, "Being Faithful Witnesses," emphasizes the importance of our witness to Jesus Christ. Chapters 10-11 of Revelation provide a look ahead to the finish of God's redemption of creation through Christ. They also cover the two witnesses during the Tribulation and the release of the 7th trumpet judgment.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching presentation could trace the promise of salvation through Christ from Genesis to Revelation.

Another teaching focus could be on various witnesses for Christ over the last 200 years, such as Wycliffe, Voice of the Martyrs, etc.

Engagement Activities: Page 96, number 2, offers the women another opportunity to create a scene from Revelation chapter 10.

On page 103, number 20, the women can pray for the lost.

On page 106, participants will worship with Handel's *Messiah,* whose lyrics come from Revelation 11:15.

Building Bible Study Skills: An important Bible study skill related to application is discovering which timeless truths the inspired author is presenting. In other words, timeless truths apply to the author's original audience as well as believers today. Revelation 11 shows that God uses people to witness to Christ's work of salvation during the Tribulation. He also called the first-century church to be faithful witnesses (Rev. 2:13). As we study the Bible as a whole, we learn that God still calls believers to be faithful witnesses.

Encourage Application: Lesson 9 includes two points of application. The first is on page 103, number 20, asking participants to pray that the Lord will increase their love for the lost. This application would also make an excellent focus for group prayer time.

The second application is on page 104, number 23, asking the women to consider how they can share Christ's resurrection with an unbeliever. You could also ask the women to take on the challenge of sharing Christ's resurrection with someone over the next two weeks. If the participants are keeping journals, they can write down what they might want to say and what Scriptures they would use, such as John 11:25-26; Luke 24:6-7; Romans 10:9. It would be valuable to have anyone who does this challenge to share their experience with the Bible study group afterward!

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Finding Strength in the Battle"
Revelation Chapters 12 & 13
Lesson 10

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 10, "Finding Strength in the Battle," emphasizes the Lord's care and protection for His people against forces of wickedness. God's plans will always prevail. He keeps those who are His secure. Revelation chapter 12 covers Satan's attempt to destroy Israel and God's plan of salvation. Chapter 13 introduces the reader to the beasts from the sea (the Antichrist) and the earth (the false prophet).

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching focus could be a survey on how Christ has defeated Satan at every turn and will continue to do so until He throws him into the lake of fire at the end of the millennium (Rev. 20:10).

Another focus could be on what Scripture tells believers about standing strong against their enemy, Satan, the dragon.

A third focus could be on what the Bible teaches about Satan, the fallen angel who wages war against the Lord.

Engagement Activities: On page 110, there is an opportunity to describe or draw a scene. At the top of page 112, participants are asked to commit their plans to the Lord in prayer rather than forge ahead on their own. On page 114, the women are asked to encourage themselves in the battle by praising God in song.

Building Bible Study Skills: Once we have studied a portion of the Bible, we must apply it to our lives. So, a needful Bible study skill is learning to develop an application. Generally, applications are concrete actions or attitudes we commit to growing in. An application is often measurable and to be carried out or focused on during a specific timeframe. However, changes of heart, such as repentance, are not immediately measurable and are walked out over time.

In this study, applications have been developed for the participants. When the women study the Bible without a guide, encourage them to take time to develop an application for how they will live out what they are learning.

Encourage Application: The application for Lesson 10 is found on page 120. From our emphasis on finding strength in the battle against darkness, the women are asked to read about the armor of God (Eph. 6:10-18), choose the part of the armor that they most need this week, and put it on in prayer.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Bearing the Lord's Seal"
Revelation Chapter 14
Lesson 11

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 11, "Bearing the Lord's Seal," emphasizes the eternal location of those who bear the Antichrist's mark versus those who are sealed by the Lord. Revelation 14 covers a view of the Lamb of God on Mount Zion with the 144,000 who bear His mark. In contrast, it also tells of the fate of those who receive the mark of the beast.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A focal point for a teacher presentation could be on believers following after Christ in holiness. As the 144,000 witnesses followed the Lamb "wherever He goes," walking blamelessly, so too, we can desire to cast off every sin that so easily besets us.

Another focus for teaching could be what Scripture teaches about being filled and sealed by the Holy Spirit, and how the Holy Spirit empowers believers to live for Christ.

Engagement Activities: On page 125, the women can engage in "placing themselves in the scene" and a call to worship, as in the throne room scene of chapter 14.

On page 129, the text also asks participants to picture and depict a scene from the chapter.

Building Bible Study Skills: Word studies are a valuable Bible study skill. They generally begin by choosing words from the passage that a person is studying. They could be words used repeatedly and therefore emphasized by the author; they could be words that the person wants to understand more deeply; or words that seem to be at the heart of what the author is saying. Participants can look these words up in a dictionary, a Bible dictionary (Vines), a lexicon (a vocabulary of the Greek and Hebrew languages), or in a Greek or Hebrew interlinear (each verse shown in English and then in the original language). Most of these resources are available online. For instance, BibleHub.com offers a lexicon and a Greek and Hebrew interlinear. However, even using an English dictionary can help Bible students to ponder and think more deeply. If you have time, demonstrate a word study with your group to help them become familiar with it.

Encourage Application: The main application for Lesson 11 is found on page 128, number 21. Participants will choose a deed of sacrificial love to carry out in the coming week. This application relates to Revelation 14:13b, which reminds us that our "deeds" follow us into heaven. It also ties into Revelation chapters 2 and 3, where Jesus repeatedly tells believers He knows their deeds. As bearers of the Lord's seal, we want to be holy as He is holy (1 Pet. 1:16).

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Declaring the Lord's Righteousness"
Revelation 15 & 16
Lesson 12

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 12, "Declaring the Lord's Righteousness," emphasizes the righteousness of our God, which will be displayed when He justly judges the nations. Revelation chapter 15 contains a scene in heaven where saints extol God's righteous acts. From the open temple, seven angels receive the final round of judgments—the seven bowls full of God's wrath. Chapter 16 shows the results of the angels pouring the containers out, as well as the army gathering at Har-Magedon (Armageddon) for war with the Lamb.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teacher presentation could focus on the attributes of God, particularly His righteousness.

Another related teaching focus could be on Christ's righteousness, which made Him a suitable, spotless Lamb sacrificed for our sins.

A third teaching focus could be to use a Bible map of Israel and point out the geography mentioned in Revelation, such as Mount Zion in Jerusalem, the Euphrates River, and the Valley of Megiddo.

Engagement Activities: On page 138, number 23, the women will rewrite Revelation 16:15 as a personal response from them to the Lord. Then they are asked to use this personalized verse as a prayer.

Additionally, on page 139, the women are encouraged to sing a song of victory as the martyrs do in Revelation 15:2-4.

Building Bible Study Skills: A simple yet effective Bible study skill is to look for repeated words. These are not words like *you, me, and,* or *were*, as examples, but words repeated by the author to point toward what he is emphasizing, such as *deeds, heard, saw, love, compassion, mercy*, etc. Ask the participants to look for repeated words in each chapter or even a section of a chapter. Help them discover what the repeated words point to.

As an example, in Revelation 15:1, we see *seven* used twice, as well as *last* and *finished* (NASB). *Seven*, being a number of divine completion, and *"last*" and *"finished*" emphasize the conclusion of God's righteous judgment, which is unfolding! Also, Revelation 15:3-8 uses a variety of words to describe God's righteous attributes, also highlighted in 16:5-7. At the pinnacle of His judgment, there is no doubt as to God's justice in judgment. Additionally, in chapter 16, we see *"angels*" and *"bowls poured out*" used repeatedly, highlighting the section's main action.

Encourage Application: The main application is found on page 135, number 11. This week, the women will find a way to extend the Lord's justice to someone who needs a defender.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Living Free from Babylon"
Revelation Chapters 17 & 18
Lesson 13

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 13, "Living Free from Babylon," emphasizes our need, as followers of Christ, to stay close to the Lord and remain unattached to Babylon—the world's system. Revelation chapters 17 and 18 cover the doom of Babylon, the Lamb's victory, and the worlds' lament for the loss of Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching focus could be the contrast between the world's ways and the Lord's ways.

Another focus could be a scriptural survey of how the Bible assures us of Satan's defeat and the Lord's victory.

Engagement Activities: On page 145, number 8, the women will ponder if there is an area of their heart that they would like to turn over to the Lord today. If so, they should list steps they can take to do that.

On page 152, the participants will use a prayer (provided) to re-consecrate their lives to the Lord.

Additionally, your group could work together to map out the events that unfold in chapters 15-18. The timeline isn't always clear, but it is still a helpful exercise.

Building Bible Study Skills: In Bible study, recommend that a student first study their book or passage on their own before consulting commentaries (scholars' comments). This process gives the student a chance to uncover truths on their own, which can lead to growth and transformation. However, after the student has studied the book or passage and formed some conclusions about its meaning, it can help to compare their findings and applications with those of commentators. Consulting commentaries can help us adjust if we have come to any off-base conclusions or applications.

With the women in the Bible study, you can show them how to use a commentary and teach them the guidelines above for when to use it.

Encourage Application: On page 150, numbers 24 and 25, the women will apply this lesson's emphasis by turning their eyes away from something ungodly and toward the Lord. They will write down what will help them to accomplish this.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Celebrating the Lord's Victory"
Revelation Chapter 19
Lesson 14

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 14, "Celebrating the Lord's Victory," emphasizes the surety of the Lord's victorious return and our call to rejoice in this future reality. Revelation chapter 19 covers the pronouncement in the throne room of the Lord's victory over the Great Harlot. It also includes the marriage supper of the Lamb, Christ's return on the white horse, and the doom of the beast and the false prophet at Armageddon.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching focus could be on a biblical survey of the practice of praising of the Lord in the life of believers.

Another focus could be a biblical survey of Scriptures teaching believers about the certainty of the Lord's return.

Additionally, a teaching focus could be on 1st-century wedding practices and what they teach believers regarding being the bride of Christ.

Engagement Activities: In the middle of page 154, participants will close their eyes and imagine the scene of praise in heaven for the Lord.

Near the top of page 155, the women will stop and take time to exalt Yahweh with those in heaven.

Building Bible Study Skills: Although we covered the Bible study skill of looking for contrasts in Lesson 6, this is an excellent time to review it and use it in this chapter. A contrast appears between Babylon's defeat in chapters 17 and 18 and the Lord's victory in chapter 19. A disparity exists between the rider on a white horse (Rev. 6:1-2) and the Lord on a white horse (Rev.19:11-16). Also explore the contrast between the two suppers: the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:7-10) and the great supper of God, intended for the birds to feast on the ungodly (Rev. 19:17-18).

Encourage Application: The application for Lesson 14 is found on page 157, number 10. The participants will think of a new way to rejoice in the Lord this week. Help them to come out of their comfort zone a bit and try a fresh way of rejoicing before the Lord. With our blessed eternity set before us, let's step into rejoicing in the Lord now. The joy of the Lord is our strength (Neh. 8:10).

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Preparing to Reign with Christ"
Revelation Chapter 20
Lesson 15

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 15, "Preparing to Reign with Christ," emphasizes the certainty and nearness of the Lord's rule and reign, prompting us to begin preparing now. We do this by being overcomers through our faith in Christ. Our faith leads us to draw close to Christ and to walk in obedience to His Word as faithful witnesses. Chapter 20 covers Christ, at the beginning of His millennial reign, binding Satan; the devil's later release and gathering of nations to fight against "the camp of the saints and the beloved city," and the final Great White Throne Judgment.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teaching focus could be on the biblical authority of the believer over the enemy. We are not to walk in fear, but confidence and even boldness.

Another teaching focus could be on the results of the Fall that made humankind in need of a Savior. God has reversed the curse in Christ, and in the final consummation of redemption, He will destroy Satan.

Engagement Activities: On page 167, at the bottom of the page, the participants will design an image of the scene from Revelation 20:4.

On page 170, number 24, the women will pray for a group or person who they struggle with condemning. Only God is the righteous judge, and in His time, judgment will take place.

A third engagement activity is on page 172. The participants will express their gratefulness for salvation and hope by singing a song of thanks to the Lord.

Building Bible Study Skills: Tracking the progressive action in a passage is a useful Bible study skill. Have your group write down, event by event, the flow of activity in Revelation 20. They can place an arrow from one event to the next to show the progression of the story. For instance, an angel from heaven came down and bound Satan in chains and threw him in the pit → the martyrs are raised to life to reign with Christ 1000 years → ….

Encourage Application: At the end of the lesson, the participants will be asked to sing out of their gratefulness for all that the Lord has done. Additionally, there is another application at the top of page 166. The women are to find a Scripture that counters Satan's attacks currently in their lives. Then they are to write it out and place it where they can read and believe it when testing or temptations come.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.

Bible Study Leader Notes

"Preparing for Our Eternal Home"
Revelation Chapters 21 & 22
Lesson 16

Lesson Emphasis: Lesson 16, "Preparing for Our Eternal Home," emphasizes our need as Christians to look ahead to what the Lord has promised for eternity. This forward focus gives believers hope and endurance. As we keep our eyes on the author and finisher of our faith, we gain strength to live lives marked by holy character, bringing glory to God. Revelation chapters 21 & 22 cover the new heaven and earth, the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven, God's promises for His people, the river of life, the tree of life, and the conclusion of the prophetic message.

Ideas for Teacher Presentation: A teacher presentation could focus on the importance of living in a way that looks forward to Christ's coming and eternity. As Christians, with this wonderfully rich future ahead of us, we can serve God today with peace and joy, knowing the end of the story!

Another teaching focus could be to get a whiteboard/poster board and colored markers to illustrate, as a group, the description of the New Jerusalem.

A third teaching focus could be on noting the themes stated in chapters 1-2 and then restated in chapters 21-22. These themes are emphasized at the beginning and end of the message because they matter most. These include: 1. That the prophecy is for the Lord's bond-servants, churches (1:1, 22:6, 16); 2. That what is shown in the vision must soon take place (1:1, 19; 22:6, 10); 3. That those who heed the message of Revelation are "blessed" (1:3, 22:7); 4. That God/Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, who makes all things new (1:8; 21:6; 22:13); 5. That believers' sins are washed away by the blood of Christ (1:5; 22:14); 6. That Christ and His words are faithful and will come to pass (1:5; 22:6); 7. That believers as overcomers will spend eternity with Him in the new heaven and earth (2:7, 11, 17, 26; 21:5, 7).

Engagement Activities: On page 176, at the bottom of the page, the participants will talk to God about their feelings and thoughts regarding heaven and His promises for their total regeneration—spirit, body, and soul. This activity gives them an opportunity to be authentic about their fears and joys regarding Christ's promised future. The women's answers could make for a good group discussion for those who want to share.

At the bottom of page 178, the women will create a depiction of the New Jerusalem.

Building Bible Study Skills: A good Bible study skill is looking for themes repeated at the beginning and end of a book of the Bible, or in a section of a book. These "bookends" usually show the themes the author wants to convey. See examples above in the Ideas for Teacher Presentation.

Encourage Application: On page 181, number 23, the women will think of a "new way" they can commit to living as they prepare for their eternal home. The participants' answers would make excellent group discussions as you wrap up the study.

Watch the Video Lesson together after discussion.