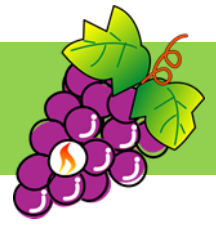




## LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning:



### Revelation ch 6:1—ch 8:5 The Seven Seals

#### Warm Up

From your own understanding, what might be signs of the end of the age?

#### Background and context

We are in God's throne room. John is witnessing the revelation of God's purposes for the world. Is it an overview of history or is it the future? The lamb is the only one worthy to break the seals on the scroll and reveal God's plan. As each one is revealed, it is clear that the future of the world is in dire need of rescuing. The sixth seal is key as it provides the hope that the church will be looking for.

#### Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity



**Read revelation 6 –8:5.** *What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand? This could be a time to discuss and share reflections and ideas on the passage or watch a Bible project type video that helps explain things.*

1. What is shocking about the first four seals? Why might John have been surprised by God's purposes?
2. What seems to be the ultimate goal of releasing the horsemen in to the world?
3. What does John see under the alter after the fifth seal is broken? What is their cry? Where else do we read of similar cries?
4. When the sixth seal is broken, what is described? Is it figurative or literal?
5. What is being described in v 15-16? What might this symbolise or represent?
6. Read 7:1-8. What are the angels doing and why?
7. Who are the 144000 and the multitude? Why should these images of being sealed give us hope?
8. Have the multitude escaped suffering or survived it?
9. How do the multitude respond to events?

#### Growing in discipleship: Practical application



10. Look at the sheets attached as part of the study and spend time discussing the imagery and symbolism of the 7 seals.
11. How should this inspire us and give us hope?

#### Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.



We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.