

Revelation 5:1-14
The Almighty Lamb

Warm Up

Those who attended Live Aid at Wembley in 1985, suggest it was the most inspirational event they have ever witnessed. Would you agree? What is the “biggest” event you have been witness to? A cup final? The wedding of a princess or the funeral of a queen? What was it like to be there? How did you feel?

Background and context

Revelation 5 is one of the most dramatic and worship-filled chapters in the Bible. It follows the throne-room vision of Revelation 4 and focuses on a scroll sealed with seven seals and the only One worthy to open it: Jesus Christ. We learn something of Jesus’ identity, His finished work (His death and resurrection) and His work yet to be completed (The authority He has to fulfil God’s purposes for the world, including the removal of suffering and death). We learn that God’s plan for the future (the scroll) can only be fulfilled by Christ! Revelation 5 teaches that the centre of history is not human power, politics, or circumstances—it is Jesus Christ, the slain and risen Lamb. When life seems uncertain, we are reminded that the One who redeemed us also holds authority over the future .

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity



READ Revelation 5. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don’t you really understand?

1. How might you respond to the argument that a good and all powerful God cannot exist because of the existence of suffering?
2. Why do people struggle with the idea that suffering and goodness can coexist?
3. **Read v1-4.** What do you think is on the scroll?
4. Why do you think John wept when no one could open the scroll?
5. **Read v5-8.** What is the significance of Jesus being both lion and lamb?
6. The description of the lamb is strange. Is it meant to be literal? Why?
7. The lamb appears to be slain yet it stands on the throne. Why is this significant?
8. What does the image of the slain lamb standing, teach us about true power and authority?
9. The lamb has clearly suffered. What is the difference between His suffering and ours?
10. **Read v8-10.** What makes Jesus worthy to open the scroll?
11. **v9.** What is encouraging about God’s redemptive plan?

Discipleship and Application



12. The age of suffering is coming to an end. (Like The Titanic sinking!) The gospel offers a life raft to enable us to escape God’s wrath. Why is God being so patient with the world?
13. The earthly kingdom is dying. God’s kingdom is increasing. How does this truth impact your life?



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

There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.