

Warm Up

Who likes surprises? Or do you prefer to know exactly what is coming? Some of us are quite happy to go with the flow and respond to each situation as it arises. For others, being in the know in advance, settles the nerves and helps us plan. Which sort of person are you?

Background and context

Revelation 10 is a pause in the judgments—a moment where heaven asserts God's authority, recommissions John, and reminds the church that God's purposes will be completed even when they remain partially hidden. The chapter sits between the sixth and seventh trumpet judgments. Instead of immediately revealing the seventh trumpet, the narrative pauses. A mighty angel appears, holding a "little scroll," and John is told to eat it. The chapter emphasises God's sovereignty, the certainty of His plan, and the bittersweet nature of prophetic ministry.

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

READ Revelation 10. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?



1. **Read v1-7.** Pick out the different imagery and symbolism in this section. What might each represent? How does the angel reflect God's glory?
2. **Read v4.** Why do you think that God withholds information? What does that require from believers to be/ to have?
3. **Read v6-7.** What two things does the angel swear will happen before the 7th trumpet is blown?
4. The **mystery of God** is described in the NT as something formerly hidden but is now revealed. What could this be? See: Ephesians 1:9-10, Romans 16:25-26, Colossians 1:25-27
5. Why is there a sense of urgency to share this message before the 7th trumpet sounds?
6. **Read v8-11.** What does the little scroll represent? Why is it sweet and sour? (cf John 3:16-18, Acts 2:38-41)
7. How have you experienced God's word as sweet and sour?
8. **Read v11.** John is recommissioned to prophesy again, to share the message of salvation. What does recommissioning look like in your life?

Discipleship and Application



9. **Read 1 Peter 3:15.** How can we preach, with gentleness and respect, a gospel that is both sweet and sour? To whom should we share this Gospel? What happens if they don't respond?



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.