

FOR SMALL GROUPS OR PERSONAL STUDY

We're glad to have you joining us in this message series: *Revelation—Encountering the Apocalypse*. Why this study? Because the message conveyed in Revelation, largely through visual imagery, has the capacity to impact and shape us as steadfast followers of Jesus Christ.

Today's lesson comes from Revelation 2.

Who are these letters from?

Who's reading these letters?

What are they trying to figure out?

Notice what we find in these letters:

1. _____:

What is Jesus saying to these Churches?

How is Jesus' solidarity different from the solidarity found on social media?

What encouragement does this understanding bring to you?

2: _____:

How does this word (above) make you feel when you hear it?

"We want to domesticate the Lion of Judah, to make Him our tame lion who does tricks on our terms. But He is wild, not to be tamed by our expectations or confined by our limited understanding"—Brennan Manning, *The Ragamuffin Gospel*

How have we tried to domesticate Jesus today?

For what purpose did Jesus' Scrutinize His Church?