1. **Introducing Revelation (vv. 1-2)**

   a) What

   b) Who

   c) Why

   d) When

   e) How

2. **The Great Blessing (v. 3)**

1. What are some things that you can praise God for this week? What are some ways that you could use prayer?
2. What insight, principle, or observation from the message did you find most helpful, most challenging, or most troubling?
3. Before Sunday, what would you have said Revelation is about – and what have you actually done with it (read it often, read it beside the news, or steered clear)? What's underneath that? If you've avoided it, what were you afraid of finding? If you've been drawn to it, what were you hoping to find?
4. "We are not scholars bent on speculation, but slaves, ready to obey."
    a. Read Romans 6:16-22 and Luke 17:7-10. What does belonging to a master actually look like?
    b. Now consider Exodus 21:5-6 – the slave who says "I love my master." How does that change the picture?
5. God signified this revelation, the same way He showed Nebuchadnezzar the end of days by showing him a statue.
    a. Read Daniel 7:1-8, then 7:15-18. How much gets explained? How much doesn't?
    b. Read Ezekiel 17:1-10, then 17:11-21. Why speak in riddles instead of plainly?
    c. Richard Bauckham says Revelation works "a kind of purging of the Christian imagination."[1] Why might ours need that?
6. In question 3 we named what we assumed this book was for. Revelation opens and closes with a blessing on those who keep its words (1:3; 22:6-7).
    a. Read James 1:22-25. What does James add? How does this passage help us approach Revelation in the right frame of heart?
    b. From what you know about Revelation, what do you find challenging about the idea that it's a book about discipleship? Discuss, and bring it to the workshop next Sunday.
7. The blessing falls on reading aloud, hearing, and keeping. This book was made to be received out loud, together (Colossians 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:27).
    a. Name one way you'll act on this, this week: a chapter read aloud at home, the workshop Sunday at 6:30, a neighbour invited to church.
    b. Pray for our church as we begin this journey together: that this year we'd see Jesus, not just decode Him.

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[1] Richard Bauckham, The Theology of the Book of Revelation (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993), p. 17.