

Key Scriptures: Revelation 4:1-11

“After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne. Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying: “‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,’ who was, and is, and is to come.” Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”

Background

John has shared the seven letters to the first century churches in Asia

The challenges experienced by these churches included false teachers, government persecution, pressure to compromise sexual ethics, spiritual apathy, and a host of other issues that remain for many contemporary disciples and churches.

Amidst the hardship and persecution, the early church was called to remain faithful to Jesus.

But why? Why stay committed to Jesus when life is hard and painful? Start talking. Find a conversation starter.

- In what ways has God’s word in Revelation 4 encouraged you? In what ways has it challenged you or created more questions for you?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get thinking.

- How might personal and corporate worship guide and strengthen you when confronted with difficulty and chaos?
- What challenges or difficult circumstances do you need to bring before the throne of God?

Choose a question to create openness.

- How will you support one another this coming week through your personal challenges?

Pray Boldly

God, you are Holy and on my own I am unworthy to be in your presence. Thank-you for sending your son to make the only way for me to be with you through his life, death, and resurrection. Help me to live this out by loving you more than anything else in my life.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Start the [Encountering The Holy God | Devotional Reading Plan | YouVersion Bible](#)
- Consider how you could love others by serving at Westwood or in our community.