

Key Scriptures: Revelation 8:6-9:12

Key Verses

"They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads." Revelation 9:4

"The rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk. Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts." Revelation 9:20-21

Background

- Using imagery John begins to speak about God bringing judgement on the earth through the image of trumpets.
- Trumpets were sounded before important announcements or events (1 Corinthians 15:52; Leviticus 25:9)
- The judgment flows from the cries of the saints in Revelation 6:9-11.
- The Judgment is only partial but those who weren't killed by the different events still would not repent and turn from wickedness (Revelation 9:20-21).

Find a conversation starter.

- Judgment can be a scary word, especially for those who are guilty of something. In what situations do you think judgment is justified?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get thinking.

- This passage would have made sense to the early readers. Try putting yourself in their shoes and talk about what the imagery would have meant to them? How could it have brought them hope?
- How does Romans 1:18-32 help you understand this passage better?
- Read Revelation 9:20-21 to gain insight into how people respond to God? What do you think is their heart state?

Choose a question to create openness.

- How do you practice repentance?

Pray Boldly

This is what the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation; in quietness and trust is your strength." (Isaiah 30:15)

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

- Start the [Repentance: An Invitation to Rest | Devotional Reading Plan | YouVersion Bible](#)
- Consider how you could love others by serving at Westwood or in our community.