

Spiritual Disciplines Guide

-Revelation-

WATCH

Check out the Bible Project Video titled “Overview: Revelation 1-11” on YouTube for a better understanding of Revelation.

READ

Each day read the assigned passage and then follow the instructions below after reading.

Day 1: Revelation 6
Day 2: Revelation 7
Day 3: Revelation 8
Day 4: Revelation 9
Day 5: Revelation 10

THINK

All questions might not apply. It is highly recommended to write your answers out in a journal.

- What important observations can you make about the passage?
- HEAD: How might you need to think different about God/others/myself/the world based on this passage?
- HEART: How does this passage reveal what God desires in your life, in your family, or in the world? How is that different from what you want/desire for your life, family, or world?
- HANDS: What does this passage compel you to do (or not do) based on what you've read?

P.R.A.Y.

Based on the passage you read, pray to God following the P.R.A.Y. acronym below.

- PRAISE: How is God's character revealed in these verses? Spend time praising Him for those attributes.
- REPENT: How do these verses reveal your sin, unbelief, or inadequacy? Spend time confessing those areas to God.
- ASK: What's one thing you'd like to pray for based on what you've read? What's one thing you'd like to pray for someone else based on what you've read?
- YIELD: Spend time talking and listening to God about what you have just learned.

SHARE

Conclude your time by committing to share what He has taught you with at least one other person. Who might God want you to share it with? Who will you come into contact with? Ask God to give you an opportunity to share what you have learned in His Word soon!

What Do the Numbers Mean?

The book of Revelation is filled with numbers—both large and small. Many who read the book get caught up in attempting to decipher what each one means and how they all fit together, as if the book were an equation to be solved. What is the deal with 1,260 days? Will only 144,000 people be saved? What makes 666 an “evil” number? Can we calculate when Christ will return?

The most important thing to keep in mind while reading Revelation is that these numbers are **symbols**—**not statistics**. They are also allusions to the ways and places the Old Testament authors used numbers in their writing. The Gospels and Acts are filled with them. John is trying to convey an incredible reality that he has almost no words for. Where language fails, images take over. John reaches for symbolic numbers to capture the vision of Revelation.

Here’s a quick look at the symbolism these numbers convey throughout the Bible and in Revelation:

- 2 – witness
- 3 – completeness
- 4 – natural completeness, universality (4 winds, 4 corners of the earth)
- 6 – man/humanity
- 7 – divine completeness, perfection, holiness (7 colors of the rainbow, 7 days of creation)
- 10 – completeness as fullness (10 fingers, 10 toes, 10 Commandments)
- 12 – double measure of human witness (12 tribes, 12 apostles)
- 24 – the Church (12 tribes + 12 apostles)
- 666 – less than perfection (three times less), merely human (versus divine)
- 1,000 – largeness, hugeness ($10 \times 10 \times 10$)
- 1,260 – an apocalyptic “year” (360 days in a Jewish year $\times 3.5$ [Rev. 12:14])
- 144,000 – countlessness ($12 \times 12 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10$)