

***Before we meet next week, please complete the following:***

1. Read through the book of Revelation in its entirety. It is suggested that if possible, you do this in one sitting and you read it aloud.
  2. Read through the handout “Basic Bible Study Methods”
  3. Read through the passage for next week (Revelation 1:4-20) several times. Then, using the following outline, begin to practice the Four Steps. Reference the “Basic Bible Study Methods” handout to help you.
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**Step 1: Seeing (*What does it say?*)**

-Identify the type and genre of literature in this passage. (Note: there can be more than one for each)

-Walk through the various questions suggested under the headings Who? What? When? Where? How? on page 3 of the handout, applying them to this passage. (Note: not every single question will be applicable to a given passage)

Who?

What?

When?

Where?

How?

**Step 2: Understanding (*What does it mean?*)**

-Are there any significant allusions to other biblical texts that may help uncover the meaning of this passage? (Hint: A Bible with cross-references may come in handy here!) If so, what are they? Make sure to read any of the significant allusions in their surrounding context.

## Revelation Bible Study: Homework for Week 1

-What seems to be emphasized in this text? Does there appear to be a structure to this passage?

-Based off of the surrounding context, what stands out to you as important within these verses?

-Make sure to test your understanding of this passage, using some of the guiding questions found on page 5 of the handout: Does your understanding arise naturally from the content of the passage under study? Does it smoothly ‘plug into’ the flow of thought in the wider context? Does it fit with the author’s overall literary strategy in communicating his message? Is this understanding in harmony with the rest of Scripture?

### Step 3: Sharing (*What truths is it teaching?*)

-After identifying the meaning of the passage, come up with a main “shared truth” for the entire passage. This should summarize what the author is intending to get across in this section. (Note: Make sure that your shared truth follows the guidelines in the handout—it should be eternal, universal, and clearly emphasized by the author. It will be helpful to also reference the section “How Do We Know Whether Our Shared Truth Is Valid” on pages 6-7)

-Come up with three additional shared truth statements reflecting some of the secondary points in the passage. (Note: Again, these must be eternal and universal, and must be either stated or implied by the author)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### Step 4: Responding (*So what?*)

-Brainstorm at least three response suggestions to the main shared truth you have identified. Seek to create suggestions that are not only behavioral, but involve your thinking, imagining, feeling, and doing. (Tip: Reference pages 8-9 for helpful tips on responding to the Bible’s truths)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.