

**Focus passage: Revelation 1:1-8**

**1** The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, **2** who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. **3** Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

**4** John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, **5** and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood **6** and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. **7** Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

**8** "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

*What stands out to you from this passage?*

*How could someone be blessed by the reading of this prophecy? How has God blessed with you in reading his word, beyond the book of Revelation?*

*How do we understand Jesus as a faithful witness, firstborn of the dead, and ruler of the kings of earth?*

*Jesus, the ruler of kings, has made us into a kingdom and we are to be like priests. What does that mean for us? How are we a kingdom and how do we display his rule in us? What is the job of a priest, and how is that now our job?*

*Do you feel valued because God has a job for you? Have you ever been made to feel that you weren't up to the task, not good enough for the job? How can we respond to God's call? Read and discuss **Romans 8:26-30** to be reminded of how God supplies us and carries us to the end.*

*Not to give away the rest of the book, but read **Revelation 22:12-3**. Who describes himself with the same description as verse 8, "Alpha and Omega." What does this title mean?*

*How can you apply this Scripture to your life?*

