

**Discussion Questions January 14, 2018**  
**How to Conquer the World: The Meaning of Your Scroll**  
**Revelation 5**

(Share about your favorite adventure film or book and why it's your favorite—what about it captivates you? Does it include pain, chaos, peril, hardships etc.? If so, how do those elements play an important role in the plot? What aspects of the film help bring meaning to the perilous parts?)

What emotions rise in you when you watch the news or hear about current events?  
Do you feel hopeful, hopeless? Desiring to retreat and hide or stand up and make a difference?

In his sermon, Peter described our lives and the Cosmos as a scroll (a story unfolding in time) held in the right hand of God. When you hear that—"He's got the whole world in His hands," what emotions rise in you about God and our world? What do those emotions tell you about how you see and experience God?

In the vision in Revelation 5, John sees that only one is worthy to open the scroll, only one can give meaning to our individual stories and the story of all of creation.

- Is there anyone or any group you look to hoping they can give meaning to your personal story or to the chaos and confusion in this world?
- Read Revelation 5. According to this passage, who alone can give meaning to everything?

Share about one of the most painful or chaotic times in your life.

- Do/did you feel tempted to quit in the midst of it?
- Do you have clarity or understanding about why it happened or is happening, if yes, what or who helped provide that clarity?
- If no, what inspires you not to quit and/or give up?
- Have you experienced Jesus and the work He did here on earth and at the cross already giving meaning to some of the pain, confusion or chaos you experience in life? (Share)

If Jesus ultimately will give meaning to everything and fill all things . . .

- Why do you think He allows for the chaos and pain now?
- What purpose might it have in it?
- What does it teach you about Him, yourself and others?

Take a moment to think about the things that feel most chaotic and painful to you right now—the areas that feel most devoid of meaning. Now, imagine yourself placing them all at the feet of Jesus. Picture Him filling every single one with Himself (with more purpose, joy, and meaning than you can possibly imagine—like happened with His death and resurrection). Now take a moment to thank Him that He is in the process of filling—and will fill—*all* things with Himself, and He alone is worthy to open the scroll. Thank Him for the way He is filling and will fill your life with meaning—and not only your life, but all life . . . literally *all* things!

*These questions were prepared by Kimberly Weynen*