

Discussion Questions
At Home in Who You Are
Revelation 15

(Where do you feel most safe, loved, and at home? Do you have a favorite place or practice that helps you feel at home in this world?)

Revelation 15:1-16:1

In this passage we read about *pleges* (literally wounds, stripes), a sea of glass mingled with fire, those who conquered, the sanctuary of the tent of witness and bowls of the *thumos*—the wrath/passion of God.

- What do you think these *pleges* are?
- What other scriptures can you think of that mention wounds or stripes?
Do wounds have a purpose in these scriptures?
- What does God usually do with our wounds and with His own wounds?
- What does Revelation 15 say is the outcome or purpose of these *pleges* (wounds or stripes)?
- What do you think the sea of glass mingled with fire is?
- Can you think of other passages that mention glass, a sea or seas, or fire?
- What do those passages reveal about this “sea of glass”?
- In Revelation 15, who conquers the beast?
- What are those who have conquered doing?
- The sanctuary of the tent of witness was opened, what seems to cause it to open?
What comes out of it?
- What allows for entry into the sanctuary?
- Do you think it’s possible that this passage is a picture of something else? If so, what?
- Are there any ways in which you’ve experienced the wrath of God?
- How do you feel about God’s wrath?
- Do you think the wrath of God has already come to an end? Explain.

Rev. 15:8 says, “None could enter the sanctuary until the seven wounds were finished.” *Naous* is the Greek word that is translated “sanctuary,” and sometimes “temple.” It comes from a verb that means to dwell; it was where the presence of God would dwell. It would literally rest on top of the Mercy Seat covering the Ark containing the law, behind the curtain...—P.H.

Read 1 Cor. 6:19.

- What does this scripture say is a temple?
- In the Gospel of John Jesus says, “Destroy this temple [*naous*] and I will raise it in three days,” and John tells us that Jesus was speaking of His Body.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

- How might this scripture help us better understand why Jesus seems to be totally okay with His temple being destroyed?
- What if the wounds we encounter in this world His, ours, and those of others are part of our journey towards abiding in Him? What would that say about God’s heart for us in the midst of wrath and pain?

In John 15 Jesus says, “Abide in me and I in you.” He is your sanctuary and you are His.

- Do you think it’s possible to truly abide in the sanctuary here and now in this world?
- If so, how do you think that happens? Can you see anything in Revelation 15 or other passages in Revelation that gives us any insights into how we can abide in His abode here on earth?

Take a few minutes to reflect on Jesus’ words: “Abide in me, and I in you.”

**These questions were created by Kimberly Weynen*