

## Sermon Discussion Guide "Jesus Speaks to His Church" Revelation 1:9-20

View Sermon here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qee18I1JP&t=1806s>

"The primary question Revelation is asking is not, 'What's wrong with them?' but 'What is Christ saying to us?'"

"John doesn't begin Revelation with the world's problems—he begins with Christ."

- Why do you think it is easier to focus on problems than on Christ?
- How does beginning with Jesus change our perspective?

"When we start with diagnosis, we become analysts. When we start with His voice, we become disciples."

- Which voices tend to create fear, anxiety, anger, or discouragement?
- What practices help you hear the voice of Christ more clearly?

"Christ is always speaking—moving toward His church."

And "Everything changes when the risen Jesus is present."

- How does Christ's presence differ from simply believing facts about Him?

"The message of Revelation is not mainly about decoding timelines or predicting headlines. It is about seeing Jesus clearly enough that fear no longer gets the final word."

- What fears seem most common in our culture today?
- How does Jesus' victory over death speak into those fears?

"Jesus broke the power of death through His resurrection and He holds the keys of death."

And "Not governments, not the economy, not cancer, not anxiety, not the violence of this world, not even the grave itself. The risen Christ holds the keys."

- What areas of your life are you trying to control?
- How would your attitudes change if you truly believed Jesus holds the keys?

"Sometimes the church starts sounding less like a place of hope and more like a place of anxiety."

- What are some ways Christians can unintentionally communicate fear rather than hope?
- How can our church better reflect confidence in Christ?

"Our hope is not in nostalgia for a better past.

Our hope is not in human strength or religious performance.

Our hope is not even in our ability to 'fix' everything around us.

Our hope is in the risen Jesus Christ—the One who was dead and is alive forevermore, the One who still walks among His people, and the One who is able to change everything for His glory."

## **Closing Questions**

1. What voice is shaping your life—fear, outrage, anxiety, success, culture, politics, social media—or the voice of the risen Christ who says, "Do not be afraid"?
2. What would it look like for you to stop living in diagnosis and fear and start living with hope, trust, and faithfulness this week?