



Sermon Discussion Guide

Revelation: The Harlot of Prosperity
Revelation 17:1-9, 12-18; 18:1-3, 7-8
November 14 & 15, 2020

Part 1: Pray

Every time we study God's word we should ask God to use the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts, teach us and mold us into who he created us to be. Ask God to reveal his truth to transform you through your discussion time.

Part 2: Read the Text

Read the passage(s) from the sermon. Keep a focus on key words, repeated phrases or major themes.

Part 3: Reflect on the Sermon

Introduction

1. Do you want more? What are some things that you wish you had more of?
2. Americans today are among the richest people to ever walk the face of this earth. Yet most Americans live beyond their means. Why is that?

Prosperity: The Seduction.

1. Throughout our study of Revelation, the image of God as our bridegroom keeps reappearing. As Adam explained in the sermon, we are married to Christ, and when

we sin, we are committing adultery against our husband. How does this image change the way you view your own sin?

2. Every person faces what Adam calls “the glob of unworthiness”—we all want security, value, and belonging, and prosperity seduces us into thinking that having things of value will make us valuable. What are things that you look to in life to make you feel valuable?

Prosperity: The Collapse.

1. Although we look to idols to make us happy, idols ultimately destroy those who worship them. How have you witnessed the destructive power of idols in your own life or in the lives of your friends and family?
2. Adam said that the human heart is not able to handle prosperity in large doses. What is it about prosperity that is so dangerous? What lie does prosperity trick us into believing?
3. Adam defined envy as believing we deserve what others have. What are some things that, whether consciously or unconsciously, you believe you deserve? Are there things that you believe God owes you?
4. What is your position towards your own prosperity? Is it arrogance, or humility?
5. British missionary C. T. Studd famously wrote, “Only one life 'twill soon be past/Only what's done for Christ will last.” The prosperity of this world is going down like the Titanic. It will not last. In light of this, how can we better direct our time, energy, and

resources towards things that will last? What are ways we can make an investment in what is “unsinkable”?

Prosperity: Beautiful Bride

1. The passages in today’s sermon contrasted two cities and two women: Babylon/New Jerusalem and the Harlot/Bride of Christ. Adam said that the Harlot and the Bride of Christ illustrate the difference between religion and the gospel. Take a moment and discuss what he meant by this.

2. How does grace transform our view of prosperity?

Part 4: Summarize the Message

How would you summarize the sermon to someone who has never heard it? What are your two or three key takeaways from the message and your discussion?

How does this sermon change your perspective on God? Your own heart? And/or, how to follow Jesus?