

Two Faces To Focus On | Doug Wekenman | 03.20.22

Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following questions:

If you could only eat one type of food for the rest of your life, what would that be?

SHARE

Welcome back! This week Doug finished out our series “Attacking Anxiety” by magnifying the Person we need to focus on when the troubles of this life weigh heavy on us. Jesus is both the lamb and the lion: suffering yet victorious. When we know this truth we can know both a God who emphasizes and walks with us in our pain, and a God who has already overcome that same pain. We can be rest assured that our future is secure in Him no matter the outcome of this life, and know peace through it all because of the Prince of Peace.

Which side of God do you tend to focus on more: the lamb or the lion?

How would your life change or look different if you knew God as both the lamb and lion?

What was the most challenging part of your week?

What was the highlight of your week?

GROW

Read Revelation 5:5-6

How does God reveal His character through this scripture?

Share a time when Jesus showed up as a roaring lion in your life.

As Doug mentioned in his sermon, we have two faces of Jesus to focus on: the lion and the lamb. Many times in the Bible we see this language or imagery referring to the nature of Jesus. As a lion, Jesus shows up in our life with all power and authority and reminds us that he conquered the world and everything in it so that we don't have to be afraid. We don't have to fear death due to the fact that he has already vanquished it. We do however have to fear or respect him, the one who defeated death and overcame the world's sins for us. In verse 5 it states that the Lion of the tribe of Judah has prevailed. It means that Jesus overcame and won the victory!

In verse 6 we read of Jesus standing as if slain. As the lamb, Jesus laid down his life and sacrificed for us all. Jesus came to earth to die, born in human form to die for our sins. "...he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.(Isaiah 53:7) As blameless as Jesus was as he lived on this earth, he humbled himself through his ministry and laid down his life for us.

Share a time when you remembered and applied the fact that Jesus humbly laid down his life for your sins.

What part of Doug's sermon resonated with you the most?

M O V E

Read Revelation: 5:7-8

What does this tell you about "The lamb"?

Can you picture what it must have been like to see the things John was seeing?

As we wrapped up our series this week, “Attacking Anxiety”, Doug brings us a powerful message about the importance of where we’re fixing our focus. How we fix our focus can enable us to walk in freedom. In the passage you just read, a scene is described from John’s vision, where he sees “The lamb” who is in heaven, rising up from death and taking the scroll from the right hand of God. We see that “The Lamb ” who is Jesus is immediately worshiped and glorified as he is the only one worthy who is able to take and open the scroll.

In the beginning of this scene, John is weeping, as it appeared that no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open it. Of course in a moment like that it would seem that all is lost right? But look what happens right after, we see Jesus who is the lamb that was slain, rise up and do what absolutely no one could do. Whenever we find ourselves in times of worrying and doubt, the most important thing to remember is that right on the other side of those feelings is *victory*. Jesus did what no one could do. In the face of defeat he conquers all. All who are in heaven bowed down and worshiped him; this is the same Jesus that fights for you. The same Jesus that loves you and believes in you. The same Jesus who is both the lamb and the lion. Believe that Jesus can and *will* conquer the battles in your life today as you read this scripture.

Do you have any battles in your life right now that could use “The lion” to help you conquer?

After listening to this sermon this week, What are some things in your life currently that could bring you freedom by focusing more on Jesus?

P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

T O G O

- *“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33*

