**GOD’S STORY – YOUR STORY**

**SESSION 10**

**Called to New Life and Service *and***

**Is This the End?**

Readings

Romans 6 Revelation 1

Romans 7 Revelation 21:1-8

Galatians 5 1 Corinthians 15:35-58

1 Corinthians 12 Matthew 24:1-44

1 Corinthians 13 Acts 1:6-8

The New and Old Self

Baptism

The old self dies in baptism and new life is begun.

 We die to sin and become alive to Christ in baptism.

Baptism is the death and resurrection we can experience in this life.

The old self does not die completely until our bodies die.

God sanctifies us by putting to death the sinner in us and resurrecting the new self.

Sanctification begins at baptism but is not completed until our current body dies.

Throughout this life our new and old selves are in conflict.

We continue to sin and are forgiven.

Slavery and Freedom

The old self is a slave to:

Sin

Death

The new self is free:

To live a righteous life

To live forever

The Church as the body of Christ

The church needs every member of the body.

Each member has a different role to play.

Love is the fulfillment of the Law.

Love is what allows Christians to live and work together in harmony.

Historical Setting for Revelation

Revelation was written about 90-95 AD.

The Roman persecution of Christians was underway.

Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD.

The Apostles believed that Jesus would return in their lifetimes.

Revelation is written to people suffering hardship.

Revelation is addressed to 7 churches in Asia Minor.

The book comforts them and prepares them to expect continuing hardship and persecution.

They are encouraged to hold on to the Gospel even though terrible things are going to happen because God will win in the end.

The message in Revelation is clear. No matter how bad things are or become God is still in charge and his kingdom will be established for all to see.

Revelation is written in code.

Some believe it contains a blueprint for what will happen before Jesus’ return.

Some believe that the events it described took place in and around 90 AD.

What Jesus said about end times:

No one knows the hour except God the Father.

When Jesus does return it will be evident to all.

**Looking ahead:**

Exodus 3:13-15

Matthew 1:23

Revelation 1:8

Matthew 28:19-20