**Small Group Ministry**

**Group Session Plan**

**End Of Time**

**Opening Words** When the lamb opened the seventh seal there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censor; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar before the throne; and the smoke of the incense rose with prayer s of the saints from the hand of the angel before God. Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth; and there were peals of thunder, loud noises, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets made ready to blow them.

The first angel blew his trumpet, and there followed hail and fire, mixed with blood, which fell on the earth; and a third of the earth was burnt up, and third of the trees were burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.

The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great mountain, burning with fire, was thrown into these...

The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven, blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the fountains of water...

Then I looked up, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice, as it flew in mid-heaven,

“Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets which the three angels are about to blow!” *Bible*, Revelations, Chapter 8

**Check-in/Sharing**

**Topic/Activity** Folks I know accept the scientific view that the earth will come to a natural end some billion years from now, but millions of Americans subscribe to a scenario they term The Prophecy in which they believe that any moment they will be "raptured" up into the clouds, that a seven year period of tribulation will begin for those left behind, and that Jesus will then return and rule for a thousand years after which the world will end in a judgment day for sinners and saved alike.

Other people are convinced that the world will end in some environmental disaster such as global warming or fear it will end in a nuclear conflagration.

1. How do you believe the world will end?
2. What do you believe is the final destination of humankind?
3. And how does your belief or doubt affect your life for good or bad?

**Likes and Wishes**

**Closing Words** Let me not pray to be sheltered from dangers, but to be fearless in facing them.

Let me not beg for the stilling of my pain, but for the heart to conquer it.

Let me not look for allies in life’s battlefield, but to my own strength.

Let me not crave in anxious fear to be saved, but hope for the patience to win my freedom.

Grant me that I may not be a coward, feeling your mercy in my success alone; but let me find the grasp of your hand in my failure. Rabindranath Tagore

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