

The Gospel Project for Adults, Spring 2014
Extended Instructional Approaches for Session 13

Introduction: *Connect to prior learning.*

The last lesson in a series is always an important time to review. As the group members arrive, ask them to pick up a note card with a Scripture passage on it. Use the following passages:

Gen. 22:8	Rev. 5:6-8
Exodus 12:21ff.	Rev. 7:17
2 Chron. 35:11	Rev. 14:4-5
John 1:29-34	Rev. 15:3-4
John 1:35-37	Rev. 19:9

As you begin your group meeting, request that everyone listen intently as these 10 passages are read aloud. Request that the volunteers read them in order. Ask, “How important is this reference to Jesus as the Lamb of God?”

Part 1: *Encounter the wonder of Heaven.*

Ask each group member to read the focal passage and highlight one or more concepts that “jump off the page” as you read.

Ask for volunteers to share a phrase or two and put it in their own words. Having spent time preparing the background of this passage, fill in additional insights from the Leader Guide (pp. 155-56).

Will there be worshipers in attendance that you did not anticipate? Consider verse 9 carefully. Have you been to a large or unusual worship service during which you thought to yourself, “This is a snapshot of what heaven will be like.” Perhaps one or more group members can describe this experience. For me it was worshipping with 45,000 men at Promise Keepers in Boulder, Colorado, in 1994.

Part 2: *Experience the difficulty of getting something clean.*

Distribute pieces of cloth that have been stained. Invite volunteers to try to get the spot out using various combinations of water and detergents. The approach that might be the least amount of trouble would be to purchase a stain remover stick that requires no water. Introduce Micah 7:19—God loves us so much that He is willing to “tread out our iniquities”—like Hebrew women walking on a stained piece of cloth in order to press out the stain.

Invite your group members to comment on the scene of worship described here in Revelation 7:9-17. Can we agree that it is difficult to express this picture in words? Since returning from an amazing ministry experience in Santiago, Cuba, I have found it difficult to express the depth of authentic worship I observed in the saints that I had the privilege to worship with during my visit. Perhaps you or others in your group have had the same type of spiritual encounters.

Teaching Tip for the Week

As we close this series, I invite you to consider these questions and reflect on how your group members would respond:

- 1) Since experiencing this series of lessons, I am more in love with Jesus than ever before.
- 2) Since experiencing this series of lessons, I value and understand the Bible more than ever before.
- 3) Since experiencing this series of lessons, I am able to study the Bible independently and comprehend what I read more so than in the past.