

St. Therese Adult Study Series
The Book of Revelation with Father Andrie

Reflection Questions for Chapter 4

For the next session on November 12th, please read Chapter 4, pages 98-105 in *The Revelation* book. Begin with this or another prayer of your choice: *"Heavenly Father, when I long for an answer to my prayers, please renew my hope that if your timeline isn't mine, you will be patient with me. When what I do seems to fall short, please renew my hope, for your work is constantly accomplished by imperfect but faithful followers like me. When I am discouraged, please renew my hope, for on the Cross, even Jesus felt abandoned, although the feeling doesn't make it so. When in times of struggle I falter, please keep me from stumbling, for in your love and mercy, you desire that my joy will one day be complete. Amen. I believe!"*

<https://www.heartofthenation.org/daily-prayers> Your reflections will be shared **November 12th** in your small group. Your group may not get to all the questions. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you to those questions most important for your group.

Revelation Chapter 4 can be broken into:

- Vs. 1-2 John is transported to heaven
- Vs. 3-6a God's throne in heaven
- Vs. 6b-11 Heavenly worship and praise for the King

1. Let's reflect on these first two verses. *What invitation did John hear? Why was he transported to heaven?*

What was the first thing that he saw? Why is this important? (Because we know that God is on His throne, that should strengthen our faith. He, not worldly things, is our security.)

What does it mean that he was "in the Spirit?"

2. As we continue into the throne room, *what are your observations on this scene in heaven? What did it look like? Who was there? What element(s) stood out to you?*

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3. John sees "twenty-four other thrones on which twenty-four elders sat." (Vs. 4)
What might the elders represent?

The word "elders" is referenced twelve times in Revelation. *What do you think the number twelve represents?*

Why would the elders not be angels? (See Exodus 24:14, Numbers 11:16)

3. In verses 6-7, John talked about the four living creatures. Read also Ezekiel 1:5-11 and Isaiah 6:2-3. *How do you describe each of these creatures?*

Lion:

Calf/ox:

Human being:

Eagle:

4. Verse 8 continues by telling us what the four creatures were doing. *What can we learn from them?*

5. Chapter 4 ends with praise and worship. God deserves all the glory, honor, and praise. The focal point of this chapter is the throne and the one seated there. *How do you think that this chapter reveals our heavenly role as worshipers here and now?*

What else stood out for you in this chapter?

For your personal prayer:

Chapter 4 describes what is taking place in Heaven *and* what we relate to when we celebrate Holy Mass. Bring this into your prayer, asking God to enlighten you on this heavenly worship we get to partake in. Consider watching this short video, *The Veil Removed*, to help you focus on this mystery. https://youtu.be/OOLZDaTgIaM?list=TLGGQFOAu_1SpiwyODEwMjAyNA