

"State of the Union" Discussion Questions

Read Revelation 5

1. This passage centers around the revelation of Jesus as the slain lamb that is worthy and can do what no one else can. It is a picture of both strength and weakness, perfect authority and vulnerability.

- a. When hear the terms "authority" and "vulnerability" what does it make you think of?
- b. Which would you rather be characterized by?
- c. Which of these do you see in your life more? Do you operate more from a position of strength and authority or weakness and vulnerability?
- d. How is Jesus a perfect balance of both?

2. Walking in authority and strength means being bold to trust in the promises of God and doing what God has called you to without fear.

- a. Where is God calling you right now to walk in his authority and strength? Where do you need to trust Him and be bold?
- b. Where do you have a difficult time walking in authority and strength? Why is this hard for you?
- c. How can you grow in this area? What practical things can you do to grow in your faith in this area?

3. Walking in weakness and vulnerability means putting yourself in a position where you are open, not closed off and safe. It is a position from where you can reach out to others but with the risk of being hurt.

- a. Where is God calling you right now to walk in his weakness and vulnerability? Where do you need to trust Him and be willing to open up at the expense of being invulnerable?

b. Where do you have a difficult time walking in weakness and vulnerability? Why is this hard for you?

c. How can you grow in this area? What practical things can you do to grow in your faith in this area?

4. Pastor Mike made the observation that in Revelation 5 the groups of worshipers “proclaimed Jesus boldly because they saw him rightly.”

a. Is this true? Why or why not?

b. When in your life have you had the easiest time proclaiming Jesus boldly?

c. Was there something special about your relationship with Jesus at that time?

d. Where and when today do you have an easy time of proclaiming Jesus boldly? Why is that?

e. Where and when today do you have a difficult time of proclaiming Jesus boldly? Why is that?

f. In your life, what has helped you to most effectively see him rightly?

g. What are you doing right now to pursue a clearer and truer vision of Jesus?

