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life changing words the message connect

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The Message Connect is a devotion that goes deeper into Sunday morning's message, intentionally connecting it to our lives throughout the week. Through a 15-20 minute video and discussion guide, we challenge everyone to go deeper in their faith because we believe growing people change for God's glory and their God-honoring life purpose.

WEEK ONE: WOW

Go online to ringgoldchurch.com/themessageconnect to watch this week's Message Connect video.

Key Scriptures:

Revelation 4

Tuning in to the "wow" this is already in our hearts can genuinely bring about real change to our lives. In Revelation 4, John has done his best to describe for us a worship experience, what it looks and feels like to enter into the presence of God--a true "wow" experience. Our lives can change when we learn to worship God not for what we see, but for who He is. When you can't work or worry your way through a difficult season, you can worship through it.

Next Steps:

1. Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

Describe the coolest concert or sporting event you have ever been part of.

What is a place or experience that is difficult for you to describe to others?

When and where was your most meaningful worship experience?

2. Start Thinking. Ask a thoughtful question.

What did you learn about God from the message this week?

3. Start Sharing. Here are questions to help you dig deeper into God's Word.

Revelation 4:1-6 — Spend some time reading these verses, maybe read them out loud in a few different versions. Or, print off the Scripture and take time to underline and circle certain repeated words or things that stand out to you. Emphasize the majesty and splendor of this heavenly throne room.

Count the number of times the word throne or thrones is used in these six verses. Who is on the throne when John enters through the door into heaven? What is the object of your worship?

Where do you spend your money, time, or energy? In what settings are you most animated?

Thrones are reserved for Kings who rule a nation, Judges who render a verdict, Warriors who conquer an enemy, and Priests who mediate between God and men.

How is Jesus at work in one or more of these areas in your life today?

Revelation 4:7-11 — Here we see a giant worship scene, worshipping the One who sits on the throne, in response to the character and holiness of God. The living creatures are leading worship.

Describe the living creatures. What are they saying and why?

What happens when they worship (vs. 9-10)? What do the elders say that is different and similar to what the living creatures say?

Why do you worship God? Is your worship more about who God is or about what He's done for you?

What does your worship look like on a daily basis? On a Sunday at church?

Habakkuk 3:17-19 — There is nothing else in this life that will carry you through every season you will face like worship will. When you can't work or worry your way through a difficult season, you can worship through it. When you enter the throne room of God to worship, He meets you and gives you strength to scale whatever mountain you are facing today.

What difficulty are you facing that you need to worship through?

4. Start Praying. Be bold, and pray with power.

Take some time to pray over identified action steps and life issues. Pray that God would continue to actively grow and mature you in Christ.

5. Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week

What is God saying to you through his word? What are you going to do about it, and when?

For more information about taking the next steps in your faith, visit: ringgoldchurch.com/nextsteps.

LET OUR PASTORS LEAD YOUR DISCUSSION.

Our Pastors have created The Message Connect video for the *Life Changing Words* message series. Go deeper and wider in your faith walk with us by going to ringgoldchurch.com/messageconnect.