

Small Group Study: “All Things Made New”

Revelation 21:1–5; 22:1–5

OPEN

- When you think about “the end of the world,” what images or ideas come to mind?
 - How have you typically understood heaven or eternity?
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READ THE TEXT

- Revelation 21:1–5
- Revelation 22:1–5

Encourage the group to listen for repeated themes or images.

EXPLORE

1. God Returns — Presence Restored

“Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people...”

- What stands out about where God is in this passage?
- How does this challenge the idea that the goal is “going to heaven”?

Key Insight:

The climax of Scripture is not us going to God—but God coming to dwell with us.

2. God Renews — Creation Restored

“He will wipe every tear... I am making everything new.”

- What does God *do* to creation here—destroy it or renew it?
- What kinds of brokenness are specifically addressed?

Connect: Romans 8:18–21

- How does Paul describe creation’s future? **Key Insight:** God does not discard creation—He heals and restores it.

3. God Reigns — Vocation Restored

“They will see his face... and they will reign forever and ever.”

- What does it mean that God’s people will “reign”?
- How is this different from a passive view of eternity?

Quote (Scot McKnight):

“The future of God’s people is not disembodied bliss but embodied participation in God’s rule.”

4. The River and the Tree — Eden Restored

- What imagery connects this passage back to Genesis?
- What does it mean that the leaves are “for the healing of the nations”?

Key Insight:

This is the full restoration of Eden—God’s presence bringing life, wholeness, and healing to all creation.

REFLECT

Revelation’s Big Message (Series Wrap-Up)

Work through these together:

1. Revelation shapes faithfulness, not speculation

- Why do people often treat Revelation like a puzzle?
- How does this vision instead call us to live?

Application:

Don’t read Revelation to predict the future—read it to persevere in the present.

2. The real battle is spiritual, not personal

- Where do you see the temptation to treat people as the enemy?
 - How might this perspective change your response?
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3. Jesus conquers through sacrificial love

- How is the Lamb's way different from the world's way?
 - Where is God inviting you to embody this kind of witness?
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4. The end is renewal, not escape

- How does this vision reshape how you think about your life today?
 - What would it look like to live as a "citizen of the new creation" now?
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RESPOND

Invite the group to reflect quietly:

- Where do you need hope right now?
- What would it look like to live this week as someone who believes "God is making all things new"?

Prayer Prompt:

- Thank God for His promised future
- Ask for endurance and faithfulness
- Pray for eyes to see the world truthfully