

Revelation Now What Will Heaven Be Like? New Creation Revelation 21:1-8

These questions are provided to lead the group in **applying** the teaching from Sunday. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in being a doer of God's Word. Challenge each other and be vulnerable as God works IN and THROUGH you together.

- 1. Share how you blessed someone this week who is not yet a follower of Jesus where you live, work, learn, or play. Any challenges you are having?
- 2. What is one of the most beautiful places you have visted? What made it so special?
- 3. Read Revelation 21:1, 5. What happened to the old heaven and old earth? Do you believe that the new heaven will be spiritual and beyond space, like it is now, or more material and on this earth? Explain. See also Revelation 21:10 and Ephesians 1:10. How does an earthly heaven affect your opinion about what heaven will be like and what would you most enjoy? What is something you would like for God to make new in your life?
- 4. Read Revelation 21:2-3. Is heaven a "Holy City," a "new Jerusalem," or the "bride" of Christ (church), or all three? How does each image help us understand heaven? Is heaven a place or a people? Explain. How do you practice communion with God now? How will it be both similar and different in heaven? What will it be like to have an unhindered relationship with God and one another?
- 5. Read Revelation 21:1, 4. What is the significance of there being "no sea" in heaven? Discuss the things that will not be in heaven. Imagine a world where they do not exist. How does this one verse help set things right? See also Revelation 22:3.
- 6. Read Revelation 21:6-8. Describe the two different groups in these verses and the two different destinations. Who do we have to become to inherit heaven? What promises of God do you most value and long to experience? Why? In Revelation, overcoming or being victorious equals faithfulness to Jesus under pressure, refusing to give allegiance to the antichrist forces of our world (the beast, Babylon, etc.). How can you grow in being more faithful to Jesus and resist acquiescing to this world's systems?
- 7. Read Philippians 3:20. How can your primary identity as a citizen of heaven influence the way you live in this world? Do you think it's possible to be so heavenly minded that you become no earthly good? Explain. What can you change to be more heavenly minded so that you can live more effectively for earthly good?
- 8. Read Colossians 3:1-2. In the rest of the chapter Paul proceeds to give practical instructions for life. How are the first two verses the key to living well in all areas of life? Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. How does a heavenly perspective help us persevere?
- 9. What is a practical way you can daily live for the "line" of eternity and not just the "dot" of this lifetime?
- 10. How can this group pray for you and our church this week?