

Small Group Curriculum

Still Wondering • Week 4 • *Is this all there is?*

We all carry questions about death. *What happens when I die? Is this all there is? Why do I ache for forever?* Scripture tells us that this longing is not random. God has set eternity in our hearts (Ecclesiastes 3:11). Jesus steps into our deepest fears and questions, not just to comfort us, but to redefine life and death. This week, we explore how heaven is not just a distant place, but life with God that begins now and continues forever.

REMINDERS

- [Awakening 201](#): a three-week membership class specifically crafted to guide you through a clear and practical pathway to growing as a follower of Jesus. *Sunday, May 17th, 24th, & 31st, 11:15am-12:30pm.*
- All upcoming events can be found [here](#).

ICEBREAKER

When you were growing up, did you imagine what heaven would be like? Has your view of heaven changed as you have grown older? How did you learn about heaven?

INTRODUCTION

There's a deep longing in all of us, an ache that success, relationships, or experiences never fully satisfy. The Bible tells us why: God has "set eternity in the human heart" (Ecclesiastes 3:11). That ache isn't something to ignore; it's pointing us somewhere. As Dallas Willard said, "You are an unceasing spiritual being with an eternal destiny in God's great universe."

Jesus speaks directly into our questions, not just about what happens after death, but how eternal life begins now. Let's look at what Jesus actually teaches about life, death, and eternity.

AWAKENING

DISCUSSION

Read [John 17:1-5](#).

- In Jesus' words here, what is eternal life?
- How have your experiences with loss shaped your view of life or eternity?
- What fear or question do you still carry about death?
- If eternal life begins now, what is one way you could live differently this week?

Read [John 14:1-4](#).

- What promises does Jesus give to the disciples?
- How does Jesus describing heaven as “home” reshape your expectations?
- What would it look like to trust Jesus with both your life and your death?

Read [Philippians 3:17-21](#) (if time, 3:7-21).

- What is it that we have “already attained” in Christ?
- When you hear that heaven is embodied—restored, whole, and fully alive—how does that reshape your view of eternity?
- Imagine the best version of yourself, fully alive and untouched by sin: what comes to mind, and what does that reveal about what God wants to restore in you?

Read [2 Thessalonians 1:8–12](#).

- How have you seen the difference between knowing about God and actually knowing Him personally?
- If heaven is truly knowing God, how does that challenge or affirm the way you've approached your faith? What does this reveal about freedom and choice?
- Is there any way that familiarity with church has made your relationship with God feel routine or distant? What might it look like to rediscover Him personally?
- When was the last time your relationship with God felt personal, alive, or meaningful? What has changed since then?

AWAKENING

RESPONSE

Read Revelation 21:1-4.

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Which part of this vision of heaven stands out to you most and why?

PRAYER

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 as a blessing over your group

But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter. May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

Pray for one another.

“Jesus, You are the resurrection and the life. We bring You our fears, questions, and longing for more. Thank You for placing eternity in our hearts. Help us trust You—not just with our present, but with our future. Teach us to live now in light of forever with You. Amen.”