

# Discussion Questions

## LifeGroups



Date: February 7, 2021

Sermon Series: What In The World Is Going On? Jesus' Words on the Future

Sermon Title: Heaven

Sermon Text: John 14:1-4

### Bottom Line

Heaven isn't about endless puffy clouds, a closet full of white robes, golden harps and living the same day over and over again.

Heaven is actually beyond our imagination, but that should not stop us from using our God-given imaginations.

### Scripture

John 14:1-4 (NLT)

*1 "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. 2 There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? 3 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. 4 And you know the way to where I am going."*

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NLT)

*11 Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.*

Daniel 12:2-3 (NLT)

*2 Many of those whose bodies lie dead and buried will rise up, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting disgrace. 3 Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever.*

John 5:25-29 (NLT)

*5 "And I assure you that the time is coming, indeed it's here now, when the dead will hear my voice—the voice of the Son of God. And those who listen will live. 26 The Father has life in himself, and he has granted that same life-giving power to his Son. 27 And he has given him authority to judge everyone because he is the Son of Man. 28 Don't be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son, 29 and they will rise again. Those who have done good*

*will rise to experience eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to experience judgment.*

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NLT)

*15 We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. 17 Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. 18 So encourage each other with these words.*

1 Corinthians 15:35-42 (NLT)

*35 But someone may ask, "How will the dead be raised? What kind of bodies will they have?" 36 What a foolish question! When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't grow into a plant unless it dies first. 37 And what you put in the ground is not the plant that will grow, but only a bare seed of wheat or whatever you are planting. 38 Then God gives it the new body he wants it to have. A different plant grows from each kind of seed. 39 Similarly there are different kinds of flesh—one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. 40 There are also bodies in the heavens and bodies on the earth. The glory of the heavenly bodies is different from the glory of the earthly bodies. 41 The sun has one kind of glory, while the moon and stars each have another kind. And even the stars differ from each other in their glory. 42 It is the same way with the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever.*

Philippians 3:20-21

*20 But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. 21 He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.*

## **Gratitude, Prayer and Accountability**

What happened this past week that you are grateful for? What would you like to prayer for today? How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

## **Let's Start**

When you think about heaven, what are some of the images that come into your mind?

## Let's Talk

1. Read John 14:1-4. What is context of this passage? How do you think that Jesus' first followers felt when they heard these words? How do these words make you feel? What do they teach us about Jesus?
2. Dale said that heaven is a place we have a homing instinct for. What does Ecclesiastes 3:11 have to say about this?
3. What do Daniel 12:2-3, John 5:25-29 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 teach us about heaven? What happens to believers when we die, according to these passages?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:35-42. How does Pastor Dale's flower illustration from his sermon relate to this passage? What will our new bodies be like? How does 1 Corinthians 15:48-49 add to our understanding of our heavenly bodies?
5. Read Philippians 3:20-21. What additional insights does this passage give us?

## Let's Act

Towards the end of his sermon, Pastor Dale spoke about seven qualities of our new bodies. One of them was that our resurrected bodies will emanate with the glory which God gives us. Even now, we have an opportunity to shine bright for Christ. Let's end by sharing one way that we could shine for Christ in the world this week.

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