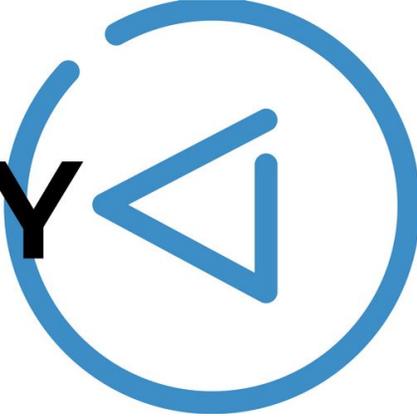


# THE SUNDAY RECAP



The *Sunday Recap* is a quick rundown of our time of worship together on Sunday and a quick look at next Sunday. Our hope is that this will help us continue to reflect on the good news of the gospel all week and prepare for the upcoming Sunday. Enjoy!

## SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON:

*Revelation 21:4* - He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. How would you summarize each section of the framework we laid out in this sermon series?  
Communion, Separation, Promise, Union, Forever Communion
2. What is the message of the Bible?
3. What has stuck with you from this sermon series? What are you still thinking on? What were you surprised or confused by? What questions did this stir up?

## QUESTIONS FOR KIDS

\*\*\*See the [NEW CITY CATECHISM](#) app for great questions to review with your children to help them understand Christian Theology.

- What is the best part about God coming and recreating a New Earth for us to live in together without sin?
- Why do we get to be with God forever?
- Who can we share the message of God's love with today?

## SUGGESTED RESOURCES

*Family Devotional:* [Long Story Short](#) by Machowski

*Podcasts:* [Heaven](#) (series of podcasts) by White Horse Inn

*Videos:* [Rethinking Heaven](#) by NT Wright

*Books:* [HOME: How Heaven and the New Earth Satisfy our Deepest Longings](#) by Elyse Fitzpatrick

## SONGS WE SANG:

*\*Check out our Spotify playlist here: <https://goo.gl/BQddvV>*

[More Than Amazing](#) by Lincoln Brewster

[Be Thou My Vision](#) by Page CXVI

[Forever](#) by Kari Jobe

[Satisfied](#) by Red Mountain Church

[God with Us](#) by Jesus Culture

## READINGS:

### CALL TO WORSHIP

**All: O God, by your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.**

**so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.**

—based on Ephesians 3:18-19

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: God of salvation, in Christ you have done great things— our hearts are filled with joy.

**C: By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us.**

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Christ is our peace; He has welcomed us in even when we were strangers. He made strangers into family. He has adopted a bunch of rebels and made us His children.

Let's enjoy this peace by taking a few moments to welcome each other here this morning

### WORD OF ASSURANCE

L: While it is true that we have sinned,

it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ.

To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ your sin is forgiven.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### BENEDICTION

L: Go forth, remembering who you are and to whom you belong.

Peace be with you!

**C: And Also with you!**

## SERMON NOTES

### Revelation 21:3

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

SERMON SUMMARY: ETERNITY IS FULLY ENJOYING LIFE WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER IN PARADISE

*"The good things even of this world are far too good ever to be reached by imagination. Even the common orange, you know: no one could have imagined it before he tasted it. How much less heaven."* - **CS**

**Lewis**

The Separation of Genesis 3 brought the destruction of the all the relationships we had: with God, with humanity, with creation, with ourselves. Let's look at how these are restored in the new Heavens and new Earth:

## **RESTORATION WITH GOD**

*Revelation 19:6-9* Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

“Hallelujah!  
For the Lord our God  
the Almighty reigns.  
Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his Bride has made herself ready;  
it was granted her to clothe herself  
with fine linen, bright and pure”—  
for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.”

## **Restoration w Humanity**

Think about the relationship you have felt the most connection with and received the most love from. Maybe a specific memory of experiencing such an amazing love from another person. Now imagine that only piling in comparison to what we experience with one another in the new heavens and new earth.

## **Restoration w Creation**

*Romans 8:19-21* For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

The earth won't fight against our efforts to tend to it. The original instruction to Adam and Eve to subdue the earth and care for it, and enjoy it will be restored.

Strife between man and animal will be removed.

Our relationship with creation restored. No more strife.

## *Isaiah 11:6-8*

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

*“Imagine a place where everything was as it should be, all relationships completely open, all conversation honest and loving, every view in every direction more splendid than the last. Imagine a place where righteousness actually dwells (2 Peter 3:13), a place infused with holiness, where joy and gladness will be. Imagine being able to trust everyone around you as you walk together*

*through a garden filled with delights. Friendship unhindered, unashamed communion between the man and his wife. Nothing being held back, no shame, no regrets... just love and beauty, peace and song. All work completed without frustration or grumbling, in the right time; the earth gladly yielding her bounty. All rest deep and fully satisfying. All touches pure and generous; all the animals our friends; never hiding in fear."*

- Elyse Fitzpatrick, *HOME: How Heaven and the New Earth Satisfy Our Deepest Longings*

### **Restoration of Self**

True humanity. The humanity Jesus experienced. We get to experience THAT humanity. THAT relationship with God. THAT relationship with one another. THAT relationship to creation. THAT relationship to self. Amazing.

### **How does this inform THE PRESENT?**

We understand: Everything here is temporary

#### **Suffering here: Temporary**

*Revelation 7:17* - For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

*Revelation 21:4* - He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

"In light of heaven, the worst suffering on earth will seem to be no more serious than one night in an inconvenient hotel." - Mother Teresa

Joys here: Temporary, so don't make your life about them

Don't get to the end of your life and realize you've simply been living for the shadow instead of the substance. You've been living for the temporary instead of the final.

Joy here is also a FORETASTE of something greater...

The things we get to enjoy here on Earth are a blessing and we are thankful for them, but When we read the scriptures and see Revelation 21 we realize those are simply the appetizer to the feast. They only provide us with a small taste of the true joy we were made for- LIFE in the presence of Jesus.

Revelation 22:7 "And behold, I am coming soon."

Revelation 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon"

Revelation 22:20 "Surely I am coming soon."

Faced with our suffering here, and in the midst of our joys here we say-  
"Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!"

# PREPARE FOR THIS SUNDAY

To help you prepare your heart and mind for this Sunday, we encourage you to read the scripture & readings and listen to the songs we'll be singing this Sunday. May God prepare our hearts to hear what He has to say to us.

## SERMON SCRIPTURE

[Genesis 42-45](#)

## SONGS

[Greater](#) by MercyMe

[Oh How I Need You](#) by All Sons and Daughters

[Your Love Never Fails](#) by Jesus Culture

[How Deep The Fathers Love For Us](#) by Page CXVI

## READINGS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

I will sing of the Lord's unfailing love forever!  
Young and old will hear of your faithfulness.

Your unfailing love will last forever.  
Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens.

Where is there anyone as mighty as you, O Lord?  
You are entirely faithful.

You rule the oceans.  
You subdue their storm-tossed waves.

The heavens are yours, and the earth is yours;  
everything in the world is yours—you created it all.

Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship,  
for they will walk in the light of your presence, Lord.

They rejoice all day long in your wonderful reputation.  
They exult in your righteousness.

You are their glorious strength.  
It pleases you to make us strong.

Yes, our protection comes from the Lord,  
and he, the Holy One of Israel, has given us our king.  
- from Psalm 89

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.

**C: Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions:**

L: According to your steadfast love remember us, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!  
Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**C: For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.  
Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.  
Relieve the troubles of my heart.**

L: Bring us out of our distress. Consider our affliction and our trouble,  
and forgive all our sins.

—from Psalm 25

#### *PASSING OF THE PEACE*

King Jesus has loved us and turned us into a family. He offers us his peace. As a family, let's put on love and let the peace of Christ in our hearts. Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ.

#### *WORD OF ASSURANCE*

"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD.

"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

- Isaiah 1:18

#### *BENEDICTION*

L: Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

Peace be with you!

**C: And Also with you!**