

UNIT 36 | SESSION 3

## WE WILL BE PART OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH

REVELATION 21-22

**CHRIST CONNECTION:**

When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

What is the hope of the church? *The church looks forward to Jesus' return.*

**KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:**

Revelation 21:4



## PREPARE

### YOUR HEART TO TEACH



## LEADER Bible Study

Revelation 21–22 mark the end of the New Testament and establish the promise of everlasting life for those in Christ. The culmination of every good gift of the Father, every promise He has given to His people, is found in His Son, to be experienced for all eternity.

In what ways will God’s new creation be unlike the world we live in today?

The apostle John described the beautiful new city of God as being like a bride adorned for her husband—glorious, radiant, faithful, and true. This new heaven and earth highlight the sweetness and sacredness of God’s covenant with us: “Look, God’s dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God” (Revelation 21:3).

The earth as we know it today is a splendid example of our Creator’s workmanship and love for us, yet it has been broken by the sinfulness of His created beings. Sin has fractured our relationship with God, and though we are able to know and be known by Him, our understanding of His goodness cannot be fully experienced because of our sin. Here in today’s passage, we find the promise of what eternity is like: we will one day dwell in the fullness of God’s presence,

experiencing the splendor of His radiance in perfect unity with one another and with our God.

In this new creation, there is no temple because God dwells among His people, His glory unceasingly illuminating the day. No falsehood, uncleanness, grief, crying, or pain takes residence within God’s dwelling place; all is right and well, exactly as it was created to be.

Consider what it would look like if you lived each moment anticipating and readying yourself for the wonders yet to come. Would you be more inclined to persevere and to share the source of your eternal hope with others? Reflect on God’s goodness with gratitude, asking Him to prepare the hearts of the boys and girls you’ve been entrusted to teach it to. May this hopeful expectation change the way you view your Lord, your world, and those around you.

### DOCTRINE TO KNOW

**New Heaven and New Earth:** When Christ returns and the children of God are revealed, the creation itself will be made new. Christ will be all and in all, and we shall see Him face to face.



## PREPARE

YOUR HEART TO TEACH

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.



### WELCOME

#### Feel and guess the item

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster
- ☐ Bible story picture poster
- ☐ large paper bag
- ☐ facial paper



### LEARN

#### Introduce the Bible story

- ☐ tissues

#### Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- ☐ Key Passage Phrase Marker



### LOVE

#### Cut nature items

- ☐ nature items (grass, leaves, flowers, etc.)
- ☐ small container

#### Care for babies

- ☐ toy medical kit
- ☐ bandages



### LIVE

#### Paint the sun

- ☐ paint (yellow and orange)
- ☐ gallon size ziplock bags
- ☐ smocks
- ☐ "Key Passage Phrase Labels" printable, 1 copy

#### Missions Activity

- ☐ "Betty Law Photos" printable, 1 copy
- ☐ star-shaped cookies, 1 per child
- ☐ paper plates, 1 per child
- ☐ frosting and sprinkles, optional

#### Snack and transition

- ☐ snacks
- ☐ Activity Page, 1 per child
- ☐ Big Picture Cards For Families, 1 per child



### BONUS

#### Say the key passage phrase

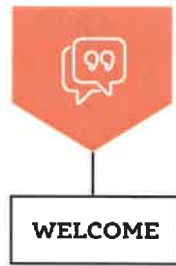
- ☐ Key Passage Phrase Marker

#### Experiment with water

- ☐ cups of water
- ☐ blue food color
- ☐ plastic trays
- ☐ tissues
- ☐ water droppers
- ☐ smocks

#### Complete nature puzzles

- ☐ nature puzzles



Provide as many learning activities as possible from the Love and Live sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, the Christ connection, and key passage phrase in your conversations as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

## WELCOME

Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the Love and Live sections of the leader guide.

### FEEL AND GUESS THE ITEM

Post the big picture question poster near the entrance to the classroom. Tape the Bible story picture poster on the large paper bag. Place a tissue in the bag. Greet preschoolers as they enter the classroom. Point out the big picture question poster. Encourage boys and girls to feel what is inside the bag and guess what it is. Show the Bible story picture poster as you talk about what is inside.

**SAY** I am so glad that you are at church today. Our big picture question and answer remind us that, **The church looks forward to Jesus' return.** There is something in this bag that reminds me of our story. Feel what is inside. Can you guess what it is? It is a tissue. We use tissues to wipe away our tears when we are sad. John heard a loud voice saying, 'Look! God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain.' We won't need tissues when Jesus comes back. God will undo every bad thing!

worship songs  
\* I will trust You God  
\* God is so good

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





LEARN

## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LEARN the Bible Story



#### 1 INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY Video

Place several tissue boxes around the classroom. Invite boys and girls to find and bring a tissue to group time. Encourage them to wipe away pretend tears as they join their friends.

**SAY** “We use tissues to wipe away tears when we are sad. John saw a vision of a new heaven and new earth where there will be no more sadness or crying. We will not need tissues when Jesus returns.”

#### 2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Open your Bible to Revelation 21-22 and tell the following Bible story.

#### WE WILL BE PART OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH

**SAY** “John saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth had disappeared. John heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Look! God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain.”

John saw an angel come and carry him to a mountain. The angel showed him the holy city of Jerusalem. The city does not need a temple because God the Father and Jesus are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. The glory of God gives light to the city, and there is no darkness.

Then the angel showed John the river of living water. It sparkled and flowed from God’s throne. The tree of life was on both sides of the river.

Jesus said, “Listen, I am coming soon! I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” “Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!”

**Christ Connection:** When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new.





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### 3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Ask a series of questions about what will and will not be in the new heaven and new earth. Encourage boys and girls to nod or shake their heads as they answer aloud as a group. Questions can include: “Will there be sadness?”; “Will there be crying?”; “Will there be pain?”; “Will there be a temple?”; “Will there be a sun or moon?”; “Will Jesus be there?”

**SAY** “When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. There will be no more sadness, pain, or crying. We will not need the sun or moon because there will be no darkness. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new.”

### 4 SING A SONG

Sing the song to the familiar tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.”

“He will wipe away our tears.

He will wipe away our tears.

He will wipe away our tears.

He will wipe away our tears.

Revelation 21:4. He will wipe away our tears.”

\* No more music video

### 5 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE



Place the key passage phrase marker at Revelation 4:21. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Encourage preschoolers to say the phrase with you several times. Each time you say the phrase, leave out a different word, leading children to say the missing word.

**SAY** “When Jesus comes back, God will undo every bad thing. God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. There will be no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain.”

### 6 PRAY

Thank God that Jesus is making all things new!

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





LOVE

THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

## LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 BUILD A TEMPLE



Invite preschoolers to build a temple with wooden blocks. Search a children's Bible for a picture of what a temple looks like. Guide boys and girls to build a building with a wall around it. Encourage preschoolers to work together to build a large structure.

**SAY** You worked together to build a large temple. A temple is like a church. People in Bible times went to the temple to worship. John saw a vision of a new heaven and a new earth. An angel showed him the holy city of Jerusalem. The city did not need a temple because God the Father and Jesus are its temple. People will not need to go to a place to worship. God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever.

### 2 CUT NATURE ITEMS



Post an allergy alert at the door listing the nature items. Place the container of nature items and several pairs of child-safe scissors on the table. Invite preschoolers to practice their cutting skills by cutting the grass and leaves. Some preschoolers may want to glue their cuttings on a piece of construction paper.

**SAY** You have been cutting several items found in nature. Grass, leaves, and flowers all grow here on earth. John had a vision of Jesus and what will happen in the future. John saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and first earth had disappeared. In the new heaven and new earth, God will live with His people. There will be no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new.

### 3 CARE FOR BABIES

Invite preschoolers to help care for a sick baby doll. Demonstrate how to use the tools in the medical kit and how to wrap the baby's arms and legs with the bandages. Encourage boys and girls to take care of you as you pretend to be sick or in pain.

**SAY** Thank you so much for taking care of me and the babies. Sometimes people get sick or are in pain. John had a vision of Jesus and what will happen in the future. John saw a new heaven and a new earth in his vision. John heard a voice saying that God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain. We won't need medicine or bandages then. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





## THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

### **LIVE** for God out of love

#### 1 PAINT THE SUN

Before the session, print the “Key Passage Labels” printable on adhesive address labels. Cut the construction paper into large circles. Place the construction paper, paint, and ziplock bags on the table. Assist preschoolers with placing a smock over their clothing. Place the construction paper circle and a few drops of paint into the ziplock bag. Remove excess air from the bag as you seal it. Encourage boys and girls to spread the paint around by moving their hands over the plastic bag. Open the bag to reveal the painted sun. Attach a key passage phrase label to their artwork.

**SAY** “Jesus is making all things new. The new heaven and new earth will not need the sun or moon to shine on it. The glory of God will give light to the city and there will be no darkness. There will be no sadness or crying either. Our Bible verse reminds us that Jesus will wipe away our tears.”

#### 2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY



Display the allergy alert. Point out that Texas’ nickname is “The Lone Star State.” Allow preschoolers to enjoy star-shaped cookies while you talk about the ministry of Betty Law. Consider providing frosting and sprinkles so preschoolers can decorate their star cookies.

**SAY** “Betty moved back to Fort Worth, Texas to spend her retirement years. Betty was able to use her Spanish-speaking skills in Bible teaching and serving in other areas of missions and ministry. Let’s pray, thanking God for the life and ministry of Betty Law. [Lead a prayer or invite a child to pray.]”

#### 3 SNACK AND TRANSITION



Post an allergy alert. Serve the snack. As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish their snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

**SAY** “When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new.”

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute the big picture cards for families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.





**BONUS**

## TEACHING HOUR

### **BONUS** Teaching Hour Group Time

#### **1 FAR AWAY VIEW**

Invite preschoolers to pretend to look for something as they come to group time. Demonstrate how to shield your eyes from the sun as you look at something far away, or how to hold your hands in the shape of binoculars to look through. Tell boys and girls that John saw a new heaven and a new earth in his vision.

#### **2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**

Open your Bible to Revelation 21-22 and tell the following Bible story.

##### **WE WILL BE PART OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH**

- John saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth had disappeared.
- John heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Look! God will live with His people. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain."
- John saw a city. God the Father and Jesus were there. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. Because God is in the city, there is no darkness.
- John saw a river of living water and the tree of life. He heard Jesus say, "I am coming soon!" Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

#### **3 SING A SONG**

Sing the song below to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

He will wipe away our tears.  
He will wipe away our tears.  
He will wipe away our tears.  
He will wipe away our tears.  
Revelation 21:4. He will wipe away our tears."

#### **4 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE**

Place the key passage phrase marker at Revelation 21:4. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Encourage preschoolers to turn and tell a friend the key passage phrase. Allow time for each child to have a turn if they would like.

#### **5 PRAY**

Thank God that one day, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. Thank Him that He will be our God and we will be His people.



## TEACHING HOUR

### **BONUS** Teaching Hour Activities

#### **6 CUT SUN AND MOON SHAPES**



Place the play dough on the table for boys and girls to explore. Invite preschoolers to make sun and moon shapes with the play dough. Demonstrate how to roll the play dough into a ball to create a full moon or how to form a crescent shape for the other moon phases. Assist boys and girls with rolling the play dough into rope-like shapes to create rays for the sun.

**SAY** “ You created sun and moon shapes. The sun and moon give us light here on earth. In John’s vision he saw a new heaven and a new earth. The new heaven and new earth will not need a sun or moon to shine on it. The glory of God will give light and there will be no darkness. Jesus will make all things new. ”

#### **7 EXPERIMENT WITH WATER**

Fill cups with a small amount of water and add a drop of blue food color. Place the cups of water, cookie sheet, tissues, and water droppers on the table. Assist preschoolers with placing a smock over their clothing. Place a tissue on the cookie sheet. Demonstrate how to fill the water dropper with water. Invite preschoolers to drop a few drops of water on the tissue. Talk about what you see.

**SAY** “ You dripped blue water on the tissues. The water droplets and tissues remind me of tears and someone crying when they are sad. John had a vision of what the future will be like. He heard a voice saying that God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain. We won’t need tissues anymore. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new. ”

#### **8 COMPLETE NATURE PUZZLES**

Place puzzles with nature scenes on the table. If nature puzzles are unavailable, they can be made by printing or gluing nature scenes onto heavy weight paper and cutting into simple puzzles. Encourage preschoolers to work together to complete the puzzles. Talk about what you see printed on the puzzle.

**SAY** “ I see several things in this puzzle that remind me of the beautiful world we live in. John had a vision of what the future will be like. He saw a new heaven and a new earth. In the new earth there will be no more sadness, or crying, or pain. The sun and moon will not need to shine, because the glory of God will give light and there will be no darkness. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new. ”

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church’s security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.