



As You Wish: Heaven

Message by Tim Perkins

9/15/19

He has also set **eternity** into the human heart. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

(1 Peter 1:3-4 NLT; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NLT)

What About Heaven?

Heaven is a _____ **place**.

(John 14:2b-3; Revelation 21:21; Luke 23:42-43; Acts 1:9-10)

Heaven is a _____ **place**. (Revelation 21:4)

Heaven is a _____ **place**. (Revelation 7:9-10, 21:3, 22:2)

Heaven is a _____ **place**. (Revelation 22:12; Matthew 16:27)

Living for Eternity informs me that I should...

(Titus 2:11-13 NLT)

1. _____ **my energies**. (Matthew 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 4:18)

2. _____ **people**. (Jude 1:22-23; Revelation 22:17)

3. _____ **your relationship with God**. (2 Peter 3:13-14)

Talk it Over:

“Heaven”

Big Idea:

This week, we talked about what heaven will be like. This is a great question because every person thinks about the afterlife – in fact, God created us with eternity set in our hearts. Many people are afraid that heaven will be boring, that there will be constant harp music, that we will feel like we’re missing out on what’s happening on earth, but that just isn’t true. The truth about heaven, which we can see in the Bible, is that it’s a real place. It is a city. It is also a right place, where evil is absent, and sorrows and painful memories are removed. In heaven, we will have glorified, imperishable bodies. Everything that once was fallen will be made right. Also, heaven is a relational place. God created mankind to be his family, and we will not only recognize Jesus as family, but we will recognize our own loved ones in a great reunion. And finally, heaven is a rewarding place, where God will reward each of us according to what we have done with our lives on earth. God desires to bless us in heaven – which is why our life here on earth is very important! So how do we respond? We must refocus our energies to prepare for heaven, leveraging our earthly treasure for a heavenly reward. Every day, refocus on where you’re going, not where you are. Then, we must reach the lost at any cost, because every person is eternal. We are God’s plan for enlarging the population of heaven! We have to take this job seriously, because whether in heaven or in hell, people last forever.

“He has also set eternity into the human heart.” Ecclesiastes 3:11

Discussion Questions:

- Discuss what you heard in the message that was different than what you always thought about heaven.
- Talk about what excites you the most about heaven.
- When Pastor Tim talked about refocusing our energies, did you sense the Holy Spirit speaking to you about some of the things He wants you to refocus on? Talk about how you can refocus to live for heaven rather than earth.

Prayer Focus This Week:

Thank God for the beautiful gift of heaven. Remind Him (and your soul) that you are living with heaven in mind and ask Him to help you have that filter for each day of your life. Pray over the areas where you want to focus your energies and ask God to give you the wisdom to make the most of every opportunity. As you receive earthly possessions, give them back to God and ask what He would have you do with them to promote the purposes of heaven.

Next Steps:

- Write down how you want to refocus your energies to live for heaven. Begin to pray over these things and ask God for direction in how to live them out.
- Identify people in your circle of influence who need to know Jesus and begin to develop relationships with them.

Resources:

Heaven by Randy Alcorn

A New Heaven & New Earth The Bible Project
thebibleproject.com/blog/new-heaven-new-earth/