

# Set Apart

Experiencing God's Best

WEEK 6 | Holiness Completed

## PRAYER

*We pray for those who are thirsty for truth, love and grace; those who seek God and his life with earnest hearts. We hope in the promise that God will give water to the thirsty without cost from the spring of the water of life.*

*We mention in our hearts those we know who hunger and thirst for God.*

*Pause*

*Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'*

***'Amen, make all things new!'***

*Lord, your words are trustworthy and true.*

*You are the Alpha and the Omega,  
the beginning and the end.*

*We pray all this in the powerful and hopeful name of Jesus Christ,*

*Source: Prayers of Intercession based on Revelation 21 by: Sara Hargreaves*

## OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

What is something that you have been working on for a long time that you can't wait to see finished?



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## WORD

*1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 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. 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." 5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of water of life without payment. 7 The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."*

### Revelation 21:1-7 (ESV)

Somewhere deep within the heart of each and every person made in God's image, is a longing and desire for a world beyond this world, a place beyond this place, somewhere that is free from sin, suffering, sickness, and death. And I believe these small glimpses of happiness and joy are wonderful moments that awaken our hearts for the longing of our true home to come.

John Bunyan referred to this home as "*the Celestial City*."

C.S Lewis described it as "*another world*."

Saint Augustine simply referred to it as "*the place of Rest*."

I love how Phillip Ryken describes these verses (from Revelation 21:1-4):

What we find in these final few chapters (of Revelation) *is a sanctuary for the heart of every lonely pilgrim who is longing for home...*

God has given an innumerable number of gifts and pleasures in the world for His children to take and enjoy—but, at the same time, the beauty that we're currently in is not what it was meant to be. It's broken, flawed, fickle and dark...

And yet if creation is that beautiful today—then what does God have in store for the children of God?!?!?

How infinitely better are the New Heavens & New Earth going to be, when our heart is at home & our souls are at rest!

So please, eat, drink, and be merry, not for the reason that tomorrow we die, but because these gifts given by God are meant to be enjoyed by His children as a foretaste and a shadow of what's to come.

Praise God for His ever-extending goodness and grace given to his saints!

From: [Our Longing for Our Heavenly Home](#) | RHOISON HARRIS ([gospelcoalition.org.au](http://gospelcoalition.org.au))

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 meaning never, 10 meaning always) how would you rate your capacity to live without fear of what happens after this life on earth? Why have you rated yourself this way?
2. By faith in Jesus we are adopted by God as his sons. How does the promise that we will inherit the kingdom of God give you hope? How does this promise change how you view your money and possessions?
3. What type of grief or pain have I been carrying in this life that I am especially looking forward to having my tears wiped away? How has God sustained and comforted me now in the grief?
4. Bad things shouldn't come as a surprise because we live in a fallen world. What good things should you be more grateful to God for? How does this perspective give us hope to faithfully follow Jesus right now?
5. Would you like to trust Jesus with your life, giving full control of all you have as your Creator, Redeemer and Comforter during this time? Ask your leaders to guide you through the prayer below as you dedicate your entire life to seeing God reign? Pray the prayer below with a trusted leader:

**Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to be the master of my life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Saviour. I declare that I am Yours, and You are mine, In Jesus name, AMEN.**