

Heaven - Celebrating Our Relationship With God

We had it all! Then all was lost.

Man was in God's presence: *Genesis 1:26-30, 2:15-22, 3:8*
Sin made it impossible to be in God's presence: *Genesis 3; Romans 6:23*

God in his grace gives us glimpses into his presence.
Throughout Scripture - *Matthew 1:23; John 1:14, 14:9; Joshua 1:9; Exodus 33:21-23; Acts 7:55; Isaiah 6:1*

By revelation from the Holy Spirit - *1 Corinthians 3:16-17; Matthew 28:20; Ephesians 3:17; Galatians 2:20*

In creation - *Romans 1:20; Genesis 1*

The presence of God is central to heavenly life
He is what we truly long for.

- **We will, with confidence, see God in all his glory** - *Hebrews 10:19, 4:6; Revelation 22:3-4; Job 19:25-27; 1 Corinthians 13:2*
- **He will dwell with us** - *2 Corinthians 6:16; Ezekiel 37:27; John 14:3*
- **He will bless us abundantly** - *1 Timothy 6:17; Romans 8:32*
- **He will serve us and we will worship him**- *Luke 12:37; Matthew 20:28; John 13:8; Isaiah 25:6; Revelation 5:13-14, 7:9-12*

Is the presence of God central to my life now?
Psalm 27:4; Matthew 5:8; Exodus 33:1-3, 8-9, 15

"I shall rise from the dead...I shall see the Son of God, the Sun of Glory, and shine myself as that sun shines. I shall be united to the Ancient of Days, to God Himself, who had no morning, never began...No man ever saw God and lived. And yet I shall not live till I see God; and when I have seen him, I shall never die."

- John Donne

Next Week's Reading Guide:

Daniel 7:13-14; Isaiah 57:13
Revelation 5:6-10; Luke 19:17
Psalm 37:9-11, & 22
Revelation 11:15 & 22:3-5
Revelation 2:26 & 3:20-21
Hebrews 2:5-8
Mathew 25:13-30

Discussion Questions:

1. How has your perspective on heaven and God's presence changed during this series?
2. What excites you about heaven as you learn about it?
3. Which Scripture from the message stood out to you and why?
4. What do you love more than God's presence in your life? Are you willing to pursue God above your other loves?
5. In what way (scripture, nature, Holy Spirit) has God given you glimpses into His presence?