

WHEN YOU DIE: What Happens

February 7, 2021

Week 1 Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: [John 14:1-7](#)

REFLECT: These were some of the last things Jesus shared with his disciples before he went to the cross. Why do you think it was so important for him to let them know he was preparing a place for them in heaven and they would be with him forever? Why is it important for you to know this?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Jesus described heaven as a home. Think of some characteristics of your home on earth that make it appealing to you and imagine what a home in heaven will be like. Take some time to pray and thank Jesus for preparing that home for you.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LISTEN: "[I Can Only Imagine](#)" by Mercy Me

REFLECT: Joni Earackson Tada has been a quadriplegic for 5 decades. She says people assume she is most eager to receive a new and healed body in heaven, but Joni says what she actually is most anticipating is having a new heart and being free of sin—no frustration or impatience or pride and being able to love people perfectly. What are you most anticipating about heaven?

PRACTICE: This week when you are tempted to be frustrated with small inconveniences remind yourself your time on earth is just a nanosecond and Jesus is preparing a welcoming home for you.

Day 2-

READ: [John 3:16-18](#)

REFLECT: When you die you will immediately either arrive with God in heaven or be apart from Him in hell. These verses remind us there is nothing more important than being sure of where you will spend eternity. But is it really possible to be sure? This article from CRU explains more about how to be sure you are going to heaven- "[Eternity.](#)"

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Thank Jesus for taking the judgment for your sin so you can be sure heaven is your destination. If you are still not sure about heaven, just ask Jesus to help you understand the truth. Ready to make a decision and share it with someone?! Text "NewLife" to 94090 or find more information [here](#).

Day 3-

READ: [Philippians 1:21-23](#)

REFLECT: Billy Graham said, "Some day you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don't you believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone into the presence of God." Do you look at death as just a 'change of address'? What do you think Paul meant in Philippians when he wrote, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain?"

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Prayerfully take a few minutes to think about what you would like to have included in your obituary. How could you use that permanent record to reflect your faith in Jesus and lead others to Him? Thank Jesus for giving you the opportunity to live for Him on earth today and for as many tomorrows as He gives you.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: "[The Eternal Shore](#)" from Desiring God describes some of the joys of heaven: (#5 is the BEST—we will see Jesus!)

REFLECT: How can learning to love and serve Jesus better here on earth prepare you for greater enjoyment in heaven?

PRACTICE: An old song says, "This world is not my home. I'm just passing through." Take some time in quiet worship to just enjoy Jesus and remind yourself He is your true home.

Day 4-

READ: [1 Peter 1:3-4](#); [Romans 8:18](#); [Philippians 3:7-8](#)

REFLECT: How do these verses show we hope differently, suffer differently, and risk differently when we know we are going to be in heaven for eternity? Personally how does your view of heaven change the way you live your life today?

PRAY: Talk to Jesus about the hope you have in Him and ask Him to help you stay focused on an eternal perspective.

Day 5-

READ: [Genesis 2:7-9](#) and [Revelation 21:1-5](#)

REFLECT: The story of Scripture begins and ends with shalom (peace and wholeness with God and creation) and with gardens. God created the earth and had a perfect relationship with Adam and Eve before they sinned and in Revelation we see there will be a new heaven and a new earth with perfect relationships restored. How do we live our life in between? How can you share this hope with others?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Nothing is more important than knowing you are going to heaven and taking as many people as possible with you. Ask Jesus to give you opportunities to share this hope and be ready to take those opportunities when they come.

WHEN YOU DIE: 5 Myths about Heaven

February 14, 2021

Week 2 Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: [Ephesians 2:6-7](#); [John 14:2](#); [Revelation 19:9](#)

REFLECT: How do these verses help us to know that heaven will NOT be boring?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: In heaven we will get to truly know the Lord. What are some of the characteristics of the Lord that you are looking forward to seeing realized? Take time to praise Him for these parts of his character!

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: "[Heaven Will Never Be Boring](#)" - this article shares a list of ways that assure you heaven will not be boring!

Day 2-

READ: [John 4:23](#); [Matthew 11:29-30](#)

REFLECT: Worship and rest mean more than how our culture defines them. What does it mean to worship in spirit and truth? A yoke is an instrument used to help animals work together. How can being yoked to (or working with) Jesus lead to rest?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Take a few moments to dream about what heaven might look like with these two verses in mind.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: [Revelation 22:1-21](#)

REFLECT: Meditate on the phrase, "come, Lord Jesus!" (*marana tha* in Aramaic) Is that the cry of your heart? Why or why not?

Day 3-

READ: [2 Corinthians 4:16-5:15](#)

REFLECT: How does this section remind us that we will maintain our unique identity in heaven? What are some attributes do you have that reflect Christ to those around you?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Praise the Lord for the ways that he has given you talents, gifts, characteristics that can reflect Him to the world. Observe one of these things in someone else and share with them how you see God working in that area of their lives.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: To learn more about how our physical bodies may be for eternity check out this article, "[Do We Receive the Same Body...?](#)"

Day 4-

READ: [1 Corinthians 3:10-15](#)

REFLECT: How does your life build upon what Jesus Christ has done? (Some examples might be sharing the gospel with others, giving to the church, etc) What parts of your life will stand the test of fire and which will be burned up?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Reflect further on your answer to the last question. How might your life need to change to be building lasting things on what Jesus has done for us? What is the first step you need to take? Set a reminder in your calendar to take that first step!

Day 5-

READ: [Revelation 20:11-15](#); [Matthew 25:31-46](#); [Romans 6:23](#)

REFLECT: What do these passages say about who will be in heaven? How do you get to be in the book of life? What has Jesus done that we couldn't do?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: Pray for those you know who aren't yet going to heaven because they don't know Jesus. Ask for opportunities to talk to them about the gospel and the courage to take those opportunities.