

Big Idea Pastor Curt – Part 6

In this final message on the book of **Revelation**, we are inspired to hope as we discuss heaven. Someday, maybe soon, we will leave this sin-scarred planet and wake up in a paradise with Jesus Himself smiling at us! The thought of heaven puts a yearning in us that gets stronger the older (and physically weaker) we get. What is heaven like? Pastor Curt answers this question by explaining that: Heaven is a real place, Heaven is a right, perfected place, Heaven is a relational place, and Heaven is a rewarding place. In heaven: "He (God) will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21:4.

Pastor Curt then shares what we should do here on earth until we get to heaven: We are to re-aim by focusing on where we are going – heaven – instead of where we've been or where we are now. We are to reach people, focus on people, serve people. Pastor Curt said, "We want as many people as possible to follow Jesus because people matter a lot to God! We want to reach the lost at any cost." We are to renew our relationship with God, getting ready to meet the returning Jesus. "We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed." Titus 2:12-13

## **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.
- How will heaven be different from this world? See Revelation 21:4 and 22:2
- What are we encouraged to do while we wait on this earth? How can we get ready?
- When Pastor Curt talked about adjusting what we focus on, did you feel the Holy Spirit speaking to
  you about some of the things He wants you to look at and adjust? Talk about how you can refocus
  to live for heaven rather than earth.
- What can you do to help Victory Church reach those without Jesus Christ with the Good News of salvation and heaven?

## **Prayer Focus**

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 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 in order to promote the purposes of heaven.

## **Next Steps**

This week, write down the ways in which 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 sphere of influence who need to know Jesus, and begin to develop relationships with them.

## **Leader Tip**

Develop an assistant. Helping someone find his or her purpose in God by learning to help others is a fulfilling accomplishment of a leader semester.