

John's vision

No more tears

"Trees of life"

God's Upper Story vision is completely restored

Discussion questions:

1. John painted an amazing picture of Jesus (Revelation 1). According to this portrait, who is Jesus and what has he done?
2. The book of Revelation includes short letters written to seven real churches in the ancient world. What did Jesus' letter to the church in Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7) say regarding the following:
 - What they were doing well
 - Where they needed to grow or change
 - What action they should take

What are specific ways we can make sure that Jesus remains the first love of our life and the first love in the life of the local church?

3. In his letter to the church in Laodicia (Revelation 3:14-21), Jesus told the people he did not want them to be "lukewarm". What does it look like when the church becomes lukewarm and what can we do to make sure our church stays hot for God?
4. In John's vision, he got glimpses of heavenly worship (Revelation 4-5). What from these scenes do you learn about worship and how might this shape the way we engage and enter into praise of our God?
5. It is a serious and sobering reality that all people will spend eternity in heaven or hell. How does the book of Revelation affirm this reality and how should this spur us to share the message of love of Jesus with the people in our life?
6. John offered us a vision of what heaven will be like (Revelation 21:1-22:5). What specific element of this vision makes you excited to spend eternity in this glorious place?
7. Sometimes we are comforted and filled with excitement at the thought of seeing a loved one again when we get to heaven. Name one person you love who is already with Jesus. How does the hope of seeing this person again make heaven even more wonderful?
8. The end of The Story is this: God will be with his people again. This has been his goal from Chapter 1 to Chapter 31. This life is really a time to practice for heaven. What can you do on a daily basis to stay close to God and have a dynamic friendship with him?

Homework Assignment: Find a small group of believers (or nonbelievers) who don't really know the big story—the flow of the Bible—and offer to lead them through a study of The Story. As you have learned to see the big picture of God's love and activity in human history, share this gift with others.

Thank you! What a great journey we've been on! I have really enjoyed each week with you. The questions, the insights, the sharing...each person in our group has contributed to what God has done through our discussion times. I am so grateful to each of you! May God richly bless you!