

## When a Christian Dies

### Key Scriptures

**Luke 16:22** "Now the poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried.

### 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

**Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

**Revelation 19:6-9** Then I heard what sounded like the voice of a vast throng, like the roar of many waters and like loud crashes of thunder. They were shouting: "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the All-Powerful, reigns! <sup>7</sup> Let us rejoice and exult and give him glory, because the wedding celebration of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. <sup>8</sup> She was permitted to be dressed in bright, clean, fine linen" (for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints). <sup>9</sup> Then the angel said to me, "Write the following: Blessed are those who are invited to the banquet at the wedding celebration of the Lamb!" He also said to me, "These are the true words of God."

### Revelation 20:11-15

#### Key Point:

Because God has created a real heaven, there are real facts and details about it that we can know and look forward to.

## TALK IT OVER

**Start talking:** Pick a conversation starter for your group.

- Have you ever gone on a trip somewhere and you had no idea what it was going to be like? How did it end up?

**Start thinking:**

- As best as you can remember from Sunday's message, what are the details of what happens to a believer when their body dies?
- What does 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 teach us about this life, the present Heaven, and the future judgment seat of Christ? What other truths and details do Romans 8:1, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, and Revelation 19:6-9 add to this understanding?
- How are these details different from the justice and judgment that happens at the White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15)?

**Start sharing:** Questions to create openness.

- What fact about the present or future Heaven most surprises you? Why?
- What about Heaven gives you the most comfort and hope? Why?
- What are some of the more sobering aspects of entering into Heaven and the justice of God's judgment for those who reject Him?
- How does a specific and clear view of heaven impact how and why you live each day?

**Start doing:** This has helped us understand more about what happens when people die. Ask God to help you understand what He wants you to do in response to what you have learned and to help you find any answers you have regarding what Heaven is really like.

**Prayer Requests:** Spend time praying together about what you shared tonight. It may be helpful to pray the scriptures back to God.

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