

CTK Community Group Sermon Discussion Questions & Announcements

Week of 1/15/23

DISCUSSION: [Revelation 21:9-14](#)

(Discuss the question cluster below - as much or as little as works for your group)

Feel free to break off into smaller groups if it helps you share more personally

We're in a sermon series called, "All Things New." In it we'll focus on Scripture's very last chapters (Revelation Ch. 21-22), which show us the culmination of the whole biblical story. What we see there is a vision of a new reality. In particular, it's a picture of the new heavens, the new earth, a new city and the new dwelling of God with his people. It's a picture meant to get us dreaming about a future with all things made new, including ourselves. The hope is that this vision of the future will start to shape our present in new ways, changing us and our world.

- I. This week, our passage (Revelation 21:9-14) gave us a vision of God's new city, his special dwelling place with his people in the new heavens and new earth. The passage showed us a beautiful city of hope. We looked at that hope through: 1) Which city survives (v.9); 2) What that city is like (v.9-13); and 3) The names on the city (v.12, 14). In that we learned that by seeing Jerusalem endure, not Babylon, appearances don't determine outcomes. We saw that the new city is glorious, safe, accessible and, as a bride, a place that belongs to God. And finally, that part of the city's glory is that it shines with the redemption of broken people (like the 12 sons of Israel and the 12 apostles). Let's discuss how these things impact our lives.*
 - A. What connected with you from the sermon or from the passage?*
 - B. Do you have a story of when appearances didn't determine outcomes in your life - and how God was at work in that?*
 - 1. What's hard about trusting that what you see isn't necessarily what God will do for you in the end?*
 - C. We talked about CTK becoming a place where our redemption could be 'written on the walls' more like it is on God's new city. So, how might CTK become a place where we share our redemption more freely, joyfully and powerfully?*
 - 1. What are some things we could try doing more of? Or less of?*
 - 2. What courage would we need from God to share about the ways he's patched up our broken pasts and messy present with his grace?*
 - D. What's one way you could "put someone's name" on something this week? I.e., how could you speak well of someone, give someone credit, include them in what you do?*
 - 1. What help would you need from God to do that with someone you may not get along with or think too well of right now?*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Registration is still open for the 2023 Winter Getaway! Learn more at ctkcambridge.org/getaway!