

SPRING 2026 WEEK 19
OLDER KIDS (3/4)

GOD IS FAITHFUL

REVELATION 21-22

MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 28:20

ATTRIBUTE: *Faithful – God always does what he says he will do..*

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus promised to come back to earth soon. When Jesus returns, God will undo every bad thing caused by sin—no more death, no more pain, no more tears. Jesus is making all things new.

STORY POINT: Jesus will return, and we will be part of the new heaven and new earth.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Revelation 21–22 mark the end of the New Testament and establish the promise of everlasting life for those in Christ. The culmination of every good gift of the Father, every promise He has given to His people, is found in His Son, to be experienced for all eternity.

In what ways will God's new creation be unlike the world we live in today?

The apostle John described the beautiful new city of God as being like a bride adorned for her husband—glorious, radiant, faithful, and true. This new heaven and earth highlight the sweetness and sacredness of God's covenant with us: "Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and will be their God" (Revelation 21:3).

The earth as we know it today is a splendid example of our Creator's workmanship and love for us, yet it has been broken by the sinfulness of His created beings. Sin has fractured our relationship with God, and though we are able to know and be known by Him, our understanding of His goodness cannot be fully experienced because of our sin. Here in today's passage, we find the promise of what eternity is like: we will one day dwell in the fullness of God's presence, experiencing the splendor of His radiance in perfect unity with one another and with our God.

In this new creation, there is no temple because God dwells among His people, His glory unceasingly illuminating the day. No falsehood, uncleanness, grief, crying, or pain takes residence within God's dwelling place; all is right and well, exactly as it was created to be.

Consider what it would look like if you lived each moment anticipating and readying yourself for the wonders yet to come. Would you be more inclined to persevere and to share the source of your eternal hope with others? Reflect on God's goodness with gratitude, asking Him to prepare the hearts of the boys and girls you've been entrusted to teach it to. May this hopeful expectation change the way you view your Lord, your world, and those around you.

WELCOME

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY *What makes you feel better when you are feeling down or sad? Do you like to eat ice cream or watch a funny show? Why does it make you feel better?*

ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete the activity page.

SESSION STARTER (10 MINUTES)

WIPE IT AWAY

Before the session, create an eraser for each kid by hot gluing a pom-pom to the end of a straw. Form kids into groups of four and provide each kid with a pom-pom eraser. Tell kids that they will hold their pom-pom erasers in their mouth and use them to erase the words on a dry erase board.

Write Revelation 21:4 on a dry erase board for each group of kids or invite kids to look up the verse and write it on their dry erase board. On your start, challenge teams to sit at a table, hold the dry erase board on the table using their hands, and then erase one word using their pom-pom held by their mouth. Kids will then pass the dry erase board to the next kid, who will do the same. Groups will try to be the first to erase all the words.

SAY *Today, we will hear how Jesus' promise to wipe away our tears and make all things new will come true when He returns. Let's get started and hear about this promise.*

BIBLE STORY

INTRODUCE THE SESSION AND ATTRIBUTE (3 MINUTES)

SAY *Welcome, kids! My name is [your name], and I am so excited you are here. Together, we get to study true stories from the Bible.*

*Each week this year we'll be learning a new attribute of God. An attribute is something that helps us describe a person or thing. For instance, one attribute of a circle is that it is round. Knowing about the attributes of God helps us understand him better. **This week, our attribute is faithful. Faithful means that God always does what he says he will do.** He never makes a promise he doesn't keep.*

REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 MINUTE)

Show the Giant Timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review and show where today's story falls in the larger story of the Bible.

PRAY (1 MINUTE)

SAY Before we open our Bibles to begin the story, let's pray together. Pray with me: 'Dear God, please open our ears to listen and our eyes to see the truth from Your Word. Give us hearts to believe. Amen.'

TELL THE BIBLE STORY (10 MINUTES)

WE WILL BE PART OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

John saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth was gone. **He also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down from heaven. He heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Look! God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will no longer exist. Sadness, crying, and pain will no longer exist."**

One of the angels carried John to a great and high mountain. The angel showed John the holy city. It was shining with God's glory. **The foundations of the city wall had every type of precious stone. The city street was made of pure gold, as clear as glass.**

John did not see a temple in the city because the Lord and the Lamb were the city's temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. **The glory of God gives light to the city, and there is no darkness. The city is safe and clean—**nothing unclean is in the city and no one will do wrong things in the city. **Only those whose names are in the Lamb's book of life will enter the city.**

The angel showed John the river of living water. It sparkled like crystal and flowed from God's throne, down the middle of the wide city street. **The tree of life was on both sides of the river,** and it produced 12 kinds of fruit every month.

God's throne will be in the city. God's servants will see His face, and they will worship Him. They will reign forever and ever.

Jesus said, "Listen, I am coming soon! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

Jesus is the One who says that all of these things will happen. He is coming soon.

"Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"

Christ Connection: Jesus promised to come back to earth soon. When Jesus returns, God will undo every bad thing caused by sin—no more death, no more pain, no more tears. Jesus is making all things new.

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new. Jesus is coming back! And when He does everything will be made new. Where will God be when the new heaven and earth are created. Look at Revelation 21:3. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud Revelation 21:3.] God will live with His people! We will be able to see God face to face. His presence will give light to the city and there will be no need for a temple because we can worship Him at His feet.

The city of God will come out of heaven and meet with earth. It will be a beautiful

city with gold, precious stones, a river of life, and so much more. But not everyone will be able to enter the city. Who did John say was able to enter the city of God? Look at Revelation 21:27 [Choose a volunteer to read aloud Revelation 21:27.] The Bible tells us that only those who have trusted Jesus as Savior, whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life will be able to enter the city. This city is for God's children to be with Him and worship Him forever. God has given us opportunities now to recognize we are sinners and need Jesus to save us from sin. Anyone can trust in Jesus, be forgiven, and have the hope of life with Him forever.

At the end of Revelation, Jesus gives a message. What does Jesus say? Look at Revelation 22:12. [Choose a volunteer to read aloud Revelation 22:12.] Jesus promises that He is coming soon. Jesus will reward those who have placed their faith in Him, whose lives show they have loved Him. He reminds us that He is the first and the last. He was there at the beginning, and He will be there at the end as He welcomes His people home..

GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY *Jesus promised to come back to earth soon, and he is faithful. He always keeps his promises. When Jesus returns, God will undo every bad thing caused by sin—no more death, no more pain, no more tears. Jesus is making all things new.*

GROUP DISCUSSION (10 MINUTES)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY *Jesus said that only those whose names are written in the book of life can enter the new heaven and earth. How does our name get written in the book of life?*

Tell kids that the book of life contains the names of those who have trusted in Jesus as Savior and Lord. Remind kids that Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life, died on the cross, and rose again. Consider reviewing the Gospel Plan poster and extending an invitation to trust in Jesus.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rev. 3:5.)

SAY *Why will there be no sin, death, or sadness in the new heaven and earth?*

Discuss how Jesus will have conquered evil and Satan once and for all. Tell kids that we will also be made completely new with hearts that will always do what is right and good. Explain how the earth and everything in it will no longer be under the curse of sin.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rev. 20:13-14.)

SAY *Why is being with Jesus in the new heaven and earth the best news?*

Tell kids that we have so many wonderful promises to look forward to such as no more sadness or death and the beauty of a new earth with everything that is good. Discuss how the greatest promise of the new heaven and earth is that we will be with Jesus. Remind kids that being in His presence is why we were created and that being able to worship Him face to face will bring us the greatest joy.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Ps. 16:11.)

PRAY (2 MINUTES)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Apply.

APPLY

REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 MINUTES)

Distribute Bibles and display the New Testament Mediterranean Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Revelation 21. Invite kids to share as many books of the Bible as they can. Lead kids to understand that each book of the Bible points us to the hope of Jesus. Tell kids that the end of Revelation ends with a prayer of hope which simply says, "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"

Consider comparing the New Testament Mediterranean Map to a modern-day map to help kids understand where these stories occurred. (Tip: Locate the areas in and around modern-day Patmos [D6].) Choose a volunteer to read aloud Revelation 21:5.

SAY *Jesus said that His words are trustworthy and true. We can wait with hope for His return because His word never fails. Just as many of His promises have already come true, He will come again just as He promised. The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.*

ACTIVITY (10 MINUTES)

IN HIS PRESENCE

Before the activity, write each of the following verses on individual index cards: *Exodus 29:46; 1 Kings 6:13; Ezekiel 37:26-27; John 1:14; Revelation 21:3*. Place each card in a Bible. Set the Bibles at different spots in the room. Form kids into five groups. Provide groups with paper and pencils. Then lead groups to travel to each location with a Bible, find and read the bookmarked verse, and write a description of the verse. Allow one to two minutes at each station. Challenge groups to share what the verses have in common.

SAY God's desire has always been to live with His people. In the Old Testament, God did this through the tabernacle and the temple. Then He made a new promise in the book of Ezekiel that would allow us to live with Him forever. When Jesus came to earth, He dwelt with people and made the way for us to live with God forever by dying for our sin. In the new heaven and earth, we will always live in the presence of our great God.

REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.

BONUS CONTENT

Use these activities as time allows.

QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 MINUTES)

Show the “Unit 36, Session 3” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

What are you most looking forward to in heaven?

Through faith in Jesus, we will live with God forever. Have you put your faith in Jesus?

MISSIONS MOMENT (3 MINUTES)

Display the “Betty Law Photos” as you tell kids about her.

SAY *After Betty retired as a missionary, she served in local churches wherever she lived. Betty recognized that God was always in control of her life and that following His plans is always best. She said, ‘Each time I have felt God leading me to make a decision that was certainly not in my plans, and I have followed God’s leading, I have been blessed in ways beyond understanding.’*

Tell kids that Betty died at the age of 94. Remind kids that because Betty trusted in Jesus she has the hope of life forever with Him in the new heaven and earth. Close in prayer, thanking God for Betty’s life and asking Him to raise up a new generation of missionaries who will share the hope of the gospel with the world.