

Living with God

¹¹ *I will place my dwelling in your midst, and I shall not abhor you.* ¹² *And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and you shall be my people.* (Lev. 26:11-12NRSV)

¹⁶ *What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."* (2 Corinthians 6:16 NRSV)

- What resonates with you?
- What challenges you?

READ a Bible verse or story

Eden Restored

¹*Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb* ²*down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.* ³*No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.* ⁴*They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.* (Revelation 22:1-6 NIV)

TALK about the Bible reading(s)...

- Where can you see resurrection and restoration happening in this passage? Where do you see resurrection and restoration happening today in our world filled with destruction and chaos? Describe this.

Growing in faith and understanding...

❖ Read Job 19:1-24

❖ Read Job 19:27

²⁵ "But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the earth at last. ²⁶ And after my body has decayed, yet in my body I will see God! ²⁷ I will see him for myself. Yes, I will see him with my own eyes. I am overwhelmed at the thought! (NLT)

- Did you notice when Job?

❖ Now Read 1 Timothy 4:1-5

¹ *Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons.* ² *These people are hypocrites and liars, and their consciences are dead.* ³ *They will say it is wrong to be married and wrong to eat certain foods. But God created those foods to be eaten with thanks by faithful people who know the truth.* ⁴ *Since everything God created is good, we should not reject any of it but receive it with thanks.* ⁵ *For we know it is made acceptable by the word of God and prayer.*

- What good creations have you in your life?

❖ Read Jeremiah 33:31-34 aloud...

"The day is coming," says the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. ³² This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife," says the LORD. ³³ "But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days," says the LORD. "I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know the LORD.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already," says the LORD. "And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins."

- Think of someone(s) you love and how you desire to discuss things with them. What is the first thing that comes to mind you would like to share with God. Share with one another.
- Think about someone you have longed to know more about. Who might this be? What would you ask? Why?
- What would you ask God if God was present right now?

❖ Read Romans 1:20

²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

- Name some of God's invisible qualities.
- Do these bring you comfort? Do they challenge you?

Recap final discussion about this session...

- ❖ How has this session challenged or deepened your understanding of Heaven?

Prayer

Individual Home Study these passages are for your continued reflection until the next session. Use a journal to keep your answers to the passage prompts.

Ponder what it will be like for God to live with us on the New Earth?

- ❖ Leviticus 26:9-13, Ezekiel 37:24-28, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, and Revelation 21:1-4, 22-27; 22:12-14
- ❖ **Read these passages and think about what characteristics of worship there will be in the New Heaven.**
Genesis 47:31, 1 Kings 1:46-48, Nehemiah 9:3, Daniel 7:13-14, 1Thessalonians 5:16-18, Revelation 4-5 and 7:9-12
- How can you find some of these characteristics of worship in your normal activities in living?

Share / Read / Talk / Grow / Check-In / Pray / Study



HEAVEN₄

Week **Four** Study Guide

Series Inspired by Writings From:
"Heaven" by Randy Alcorn

SHALOM
LUTHERAN church

LOVE GOD ♥ LOVE OTHERS ♥ SERVE the WORLD