

GOD IS MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

YEAR: KNEEL / FOCUS: I AM AN AMBASSADOR
SERIES: GOD IS THE MESSAGE - I AM THE MESSENGER

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

Isaiah 66:22; 65:17; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:23, 29; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 3:12

BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 21:5

“And He who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also He said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’”

BIG IDEAS

- A new heaven and earth is coming.
- A people made new from every tribe and nation is coming.
- New worship that is holy and undivided is coming.

BIBLE PASSAGE: REVELATION 21:1-8; 22:1-7

KNEEL - I AM AN AMBASSADOR

The Kneel Year is an exploration of what it means to worship God with our all (Luke 10:26-28). Worship is not something that is limited to a service once a week, but instead occurs every day, in all of life. We are unceasing worshipers. Worship never stops, it only changes directions. In order to worship God with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind, we must embrace our identity as image bearers. It is out of that identity that we can begin to live for God’s glory in all of life (Colossians 3:17).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ that brings salvation to sinners.
- Salvation comes by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.
- Jesus followers have been trusted with the gospel in order to share it with others.



Every student should strive to...

- Share the gospel each month with at least one person who does not know Jesus.
- Practice sharing the gospel using multiple different tools or methods.



Every student should feel...

- Humbled that as believers we have been entrusted with the glorious gospel of our Savior.
- Satisfied in Jesus as the only true Savior



Every student should want...

- To grow in awareness of the false saviors they are tempted to put their hope in.
- To have a softened heart and love for people who are lost
- To take advantage of opportunities to share the gospel with people in their lives who need Christ

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week’s Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.

BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 21:5

“And He who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also He said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’”

Jesus is the Ruler of all things.

“And He who was seated on the throne said...”

- Thrones have historically indicated authority and royalty. The person sitting on a throne is the person who holds a high position and rules over others. In John’s vision of eternity, Jesus sits on the throne. It is He who rules over everything. He is the one true King who holds all power and authority over everything.
- Jesus rules now over all things. When Jesus ascended into Heaven after His resurrection, He sat down on a throne at the right hand of God. God placed on Jesus all power and rule, making Him the head of the church.

God is making all things new now.

“...Behold, I am making all things new...”

- Currently, the earth is broken and full of sin and death. Now, people feel sorrow and the pain of death because of sin. The earth does not function or work as it was created to do. Instead, the sinfulness of man has tainted it and turned what was good into something that is gradually dying. This earth will not remain the same in eternity. One day, God will return with a new earth, an earth without pain and sorrow because there will be no more sin. This new earth will be perfect and God’s people will live on it with Him forever.
- God is making people new now. Those who have repented and placed their faith in Jesus receive new hearts that are set free from their sin nature. As God’s Spirit works inside of His people, they are transformed each day to be more and more like Jesus. One day, they will be fully sanctified and receive their glorified bodies to live on the new earth forever.

God’s people can trust Him to make all things new.

“Also He said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’”

- The hope that God’s people have is that He is making them new and He is making for them a perfect eternal home. God’s people can trust Him because His Word is true. In John’s vision of eternity, Jesus says that His Word and Promises can be trusted.
- We know that God can be trusted because He has always kept His promises and He will always do what He says He’s going to do. God is the one sitting on the throne with all power and authority; therefore, He is the one who can and will make the broken things new and the wrong things right.

BIG IDEA #1: A NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH IS COMING.¹

[THIS]

In the first part of Revelation 21, John writes about his vision of what life will be like after Jesus returns. The old heaven and earth will pass away, symbolizing the end of the reign of darkness on the earth. In Revelation 21:1-4, John writes of the way that sin will be no more after Jesus returns and brings the new heaven and earth with Him. The old heaven and earth will be transformed into a new and perfect place for God and His people. This new home will be different from the earth now. There will not be the darkness of sin in the new earth. Instead, it will be a holy city for God and His people. All of God's people will live in the new earth for all of eternity. The reality we live now will change forever because God makes all things new. The curse introduced by the first sin on earth will be reversed and life will be perfect.

[THEREFORE]

How can you talk about how the truth that God is making all things new, and the hope that this brings you?

Romans 8:24-25 reminds us that our hope is in our eternal home and the salvation that Jesus gives us. 1 John 5:13-14 also teaches us that it is our eternal home that brings home and produces a steadfastness in us. Because we can see and feel the effects of the brokenness of this world, the knowledge that God will make it all new brings us hope and helps us persevere in this life.

[THIS]

In Revelation 21:3, we see that in the new earth, God will dwell with them forever. Because the new earth will be sinless, there will never be a barrier between God and man again. There will be no hindrances to man's relationship with God. God will live with His people on the new earth in harmony. Because there will be no more sin, there will be no more sorrow or pain. Death will be no more. Only joy and worship will fill every person's heart and mind. Life will be as it was created to be and never again will man experience the devastation of sin.

[THEREFORE]

What are some things that you look forward to God making new? How can you use these things to share with others the truth that God is making things new?

Life in this world is full of pain and struggle. We struggle in our relationships and in our daily lives. In Revelation 21:4, we are reminded that when God makes a new earth, there will be no more struggle. We will no longer feel the sorrow of death. Instead, we will live victoriously and only feel the joy of being in God's presence. As we seek to tell others about this truth, we can point out the brokenness of this world and remind others of how all of that will go away when Christ returns.

How have you thought about the new heaven and earth wrongly? How does having a right view of it help you tell others about Jesus?

1 John 2:15 tells us to not love the world or anything in it. As we live on this earth, we can grow to love the things of it because we are used to them. Sometimes, when we think about a new earth, we can feel like we'd be losing out on things here on earth. We can often think of the new heaven and earth as less fun or like we'd miss out on the things that we're used to here. When we understand what it means to have a home that is free from the terrible consequences of our sin, we will want to tell others how to live in eternity with Jesus. We will desire to have the people we love with us.

1. Isaiah 65:17: God has always promised a new heaven and earth. He has always kept His promises and one day a new heaven and earth will come.

BIG IDEA #2: A PEOPLE MADE NEW FROM EVERY TRIBE AND NATION IS COMING.²

[THIS]

Not only will the heaven and earth be made new after Jesus returns, but God's family will be new. Now, God's people are all over the world and they come from different places. Often, local bodies of believers are made up of people from similar backgrounds and ethnicities. On the new earth, God's church will be made up of people from every tribe, tongue, and nation. The body of Christ will no longer be separated into regions, countries, or continents. Instead, everyone will be together as one group, worshiping God forever. There will be people of different ethnicities, from different backgrounds, speaking different languages all together as one family of God. God's people now should look forward to this day when all of His children come together as one.

[THEREFORE]

How can you talk about God's plan to save people from all nations?

In John 11:52 speaks of the prophecy stating that Jesus would die for all nations. Salvation is not just for one people group, but for all the world. Anyone who believes can be saved and receive eternal life with Christ. The importance of this is that God's family is now scattered throughout the world, but in eternity, He will gather everyone together as one to worship Him and live with Him forever.

How can you talk to your friends about the reality of eternity?

In Mark 13:26-27, we see that Jesus will return to gather His people. As you seek to share the truth about eternity with your friends, you can talk about what eternity means. Ecclesiastes 3:11 and Psalm 90:2 help us understand that eternity is written on our hearts and that it means we live forever either with God or separated from Him.

[THIS]

Because of the brokenness of this world, people are sinful and they feel the effects of sin in the world. Death is a part of life for people. Sickness, disease, and sorrow are part of the human story on earth, but in the new earth, things will be different. God works now in the hearts of His people to transform them to be new. Anyone who is a follower of Jesus is a new creation in Christ. This means that believers are being made new each and every day. One day, God's people will be fully sanctified and receive their glorified, or heavenly bodies. These bodies will never grow old, decay, or die. There will be no sorrow or suffering because there will be no sin. God's people will live together in perfect harmony for all of eternity.

[THEREFORE]

Read Revelation 22:1-7. Think about the new life believers will live in eternity. How does this make you look forward to eternity and how can you share this truth with someone else?

This life is full of struggle and sorrow. Looking forward to eternity where there will be no more sorrow brings hope. 1 Thessalonians 4:13 shows us that because we hope in our eternity, we even mourn the death of someone differently. 1 Timothy 4:10 teaches us that our lives here on earth are lived for our eternity. This means that as we live now with our eternal home in mind. We are always doing and working for our future home rather than making this earth our hope.

2. Revelation 7:9: Eternity will be made up of God's people from every tribe, tongue, and nation. His family will be gathered together as one.

BIG IDEA #3: NEW WORSHIP THAT IS HOLY AND UNDIVIDED IS COMING.³**[THIS]**

When Jesus returns, bringing with Him the new earth, our worship will be new. Now, we battle against our flesh that leads us to worship others things, to create idols of things on the earth. Our hearts are drawn to worldly things, things that do not last. We must daily put to death these desires and turn our hearts to Christ. We have to daily tune our hearts to beat for Christ and to worship Him alone as our true King. On the new earth, God's people will worship Him with undivided devotion. We will not battle our fleshly desires, nor will we turn our hearts to other things. Instead, we will fully worship God for who He is and what He has done. We will see Him as He really is and our hearts will cry out with undivided praise and worship to Him.

[THEREFORE]

What are some of the things that draw you away from worshiping God now? How can you use some of these things to talk with someone else about how our worship will be undivided in eternity?

1 Corinthians 10:7 teaches us to flee from idolatry, to not allow ourselves to be drawn into the life here on earth. Instead, we should focus on and live for our eternal home. It's easy for us to become distracted with living for this life and we miss out on living for God's kingdom. We can share our own struggles as we seek to tell others how our worship will be completely focused on God in eternity.

[THIS]

When God's people worship in the new earth, there will be no more sin. Every person will be in their glorified body and worship will be holy and right. The new earth will be perfect and eternal. This means that all that we do in eternity will be holy and right. We will no longer be distracted by our flesh natures desiring worldly things. We will have no sin nature, so our hearts will focus completely on God as we worship Him perfectly for all of eternity. We will be with God and His glory will fill us and we will be complete and whole always. We will lack nothing and desire nothing but to praise God.

[THEREFORE]

In Revelation 22:1-4, we see a picture of what our worship will be like in eternity. How does sin taint our worship now?

In Ecclesiastes 7:20 and Romans 3:10-12, we see the truth that no one is righteous or good. Because of this, our worship is not truly good. It is always tainted by our sinfulness. We lose focus and turn our hearts to worldly things. We fight daily to worship God alone and to keep our hearts and minds on Him.

How can you begin a discussion about worship with someone? How can you share the gospel with them this week?

You can begin to tell others about what life will be like in eternity by pointing out the brokenness of this life. You can share with them how life on the new earth will be different and without sin. This means our worship will be perfect and holy. You can share John's vision of eternity found in Revelation 21:1-8 and describe some of the things you are looking forward to in the new earth.

3. Psalm 95:6: All of God's people will worship Him perfectly in eternity.