



The Grove

BIBLE CHAPEL

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LIFEGROUP RESOURCES: 05.14.23 Pulpit Curriculum

A 5-Point Preparation Checklist for Heaven

Main passage: John 14:1-6

“Jesus Christ our High Priest is preparing an eternal home for us. Therefore, we need to think *more* and *better* thoughts about heaven.”

1) Do you (know that you) have access to heaven’s perfection? [John 14:1-6; Hebrews 9:27; Psalm 39:4-5; Psalm 90:12]

- You don’t need to just *hope* for heaven - you can *know* that He will take you to Himself! Our repentance, faith, and commitment to Christ keep us close to Him.

A. Do you live with repentance and faith present in your daily life? What are some habitual practices that you use to foster these? _____

- How you think about heaven impacts your life dramatically.

B. How often do you think of heaven? What are your primary thoughts/feelings about heaven?

C. What hinders you from thinking of your eternal home as a life-altering reality? Do you *embrace* or *run from* the reality of your mortality? _____

2) Are you living as a citizen of heaven or a citizen of Earth? [2 Corinthians 5:1-10]

- We too often feel “at home” here on Earth. The *better* way is living like heaven is our home, which enables and empowers us to make good decisions.

D. Are you ever compromised or deceived by the temptations/pleasures of this world? Which ones? Be specific/give an example. _____

2) Have you rehearsed well for heaven? [2 Timothy 4:8; Philippians 1:25-27; 2 Corinthians 4:17; Romans 8:18; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15]

- 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 talks about believers building on the foundation of the gospel of Jesus Christ with our kingdom work. We must choose to build our



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lives on *eternal* properties (God's work) and not *temporal* properties (works for and temptations of the world).

- The choices that you make of your mind, words, habits, etc. have a massive influence on your eternity, strengthening or weakening your "spiritual core."
 - A. How strong is your spiritual core? What kingdom responsibilities are you currently shouldering (or would like to)? _____

- The degree to which we suffer today is the degree to which we will be able to all the more glorify, worship, and enjoy God in heaven.
 - B. How does this change your perspective on suffering? Can you think of a time you *suffered well*? _____

4) What is following you to heaven? [Revelation 14:13; Hebrews 6:10; Matthew 10:42; 1 Timothy 5:24-25]

- Your good deeds will follow you to heaven (Revelation 14:13, Hebrews 6:10) - your fruitfulness, your disciple-making, your sacrifices, and your commitments.
 - C. Are you hauling a tiny wagon or a tractor trailer load of good works to heaven? Name a few good deeds that might be in your "trailer." _____

- 1 Timothy 5:25, Luke 8:17, and Hebrews 4:13 declare that all will be revealed, and nothing will remain hidden on judgment day.
 - D. Are there any habitual sins following you to heaven that you have not yet repented of in faith and commitment to Christ? _____

5) How will you be dressed on that great wedding day? [Revelation 19:6-8]

- We are called to be corporately prepared as a church body of believers.
- The bride (the church) prepares herself, weaving her own gown.
 - E. How are you personally adding to The Grove's patchwork on the "gown" of Christ's bride? _____

You will reap eternally what you have sown here on Earth. May your heart be filled with anticipatory joy when you think of the home Jesus Christ is preparing for you.