



When We All Get to Heaven

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 1 November 10, 2024

“How Good is Good Enough?”



OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I pray for our group to learn and grow together in fellowship with each other as we go through this study. Father, I pray that each person here will receive what they need to equip them to be the person who You designed them to be. Lord, help us to pray for each other's needs and show God's love to each other as you take us through this study about heaven. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Romans 3:10 (NIV)

“There is no one righteous, not even one”

Romans 3:20 (NIV)

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law;

Romans 3:23 (NIV)

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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INTRODUCTION

Most Americans believe in some sort of afterlife and there's a lot of mystery and a lot of questions around that concept. But there's a general sense that there is something beyond this life - we refer to it as “heaven,” and it's a good place... and we just assume we're going to go there. But how can we be assured we are going to heaven?

There's some unsettling realities if you decide to base your eternity on the assumption that “good people go to heaven.” This includes – no established standard for good, what % of good deeds do you need, do thoughts and motives count, etc. According to Jesus, good people don't go to heaven. In fact, Jesus didn't give us a to do list, he gave himself and invited all of us to put our trust in him.

QUESTIONS

1. What are your thoughts as to how the concept of being good enough to earn heaven originated?
2. Growing up, were you taught that heaven was contingent upon:
 - Being good enough?
 - Being baptized enough?
 - Believing enough?
 - A combination?
 - Something else altogether?
3. Growing up, did you pray a salvation prayer more than once, just to be sure? What does that assume about God? About you?
4. Read John 3:1–18
 - What are your observations about this passage? What key words stand out?
 - What was Nicodemus trying to get answered? How did Jesus answer him?
 - In verse 16, what key words stand out? How does this verse address the question, *“How good is good enough?”*

FINAL APPLICATION

Read these passages for next week:

- 2 Corinthians 5:20–21
- Luke 23:33–34
- 1 Corinthians 15:1, 3–7