

Finally Home

Revelation 21:9-27

Big Idea: "Let not your heart be troubled." We live in a troubled world, but Jesus is the only permanent cure. He is the way, the truth, the life. One day we will dwell in God's glory forever. Who in your life still needs to hear this? Pray for them today.

Main Points

1. The holy city described in Revelation 21 is not merely a beautiful place but a dwelling prepared by God, lit by His glory, and accessible only through faith in Jesus Christ.
2. Our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20-21), meaning everything on this current earth is temporary. This truth should shape how we live and how urgently we share the gospel.
3. Jesus declared in John 14:6 that He is the only way to the Father. This is not a popular message in today's culture, but it is the truth on which eternal life depends.
4. Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will enter the holy city. This reality gives every believer both a sobering responsibility and a compelling motivation to share the gospel.
5. Opportunities to share Christ with others are not guaranteed tomorrow. We do not know when those doors will permanently close.

Scriptures:

- ☐ Philippians 3:20-21
- ☐ John 14:1-6
- ☐ Revelation 19
- ☐ Matthew 28:19-20

Opening Question:

Think back to a home you loved, whether it was the house you grew up in, your first home, or a place that felt especially welcoming. What made it feel like home?

Discussion Questions:

Ron described the holy city as something that is both beautiful and large, adorned with jewels, pearls, and pure gold. What detail from Revelation 21:9-27 stands out most to you, and why?

Ron emphasized that as amazing as the city itself is, the most important reality is who is there. Why do you think it matters that we focus on God's presence rather than just the beauty of the place?

Revelation 21:23 describes God's glory as the light of the city, replacing the need for the sun or moon. What do you think it will mean practically and spiritually to live in the constant presence of God's glory?

Verse 27 states plainly that nothing unclean will enter the city and that only those written in the Lamb's Book of Life will dwell there. How does that verse make you feel? Does it bring you comfort, urgency, or both?

Philippians 3:20-21 reminds us that our citizenship is in heaven. In what ways do you find yourself living as though this earth is your permanent home? What tends to pull your focus away from eternity?

Ron shared the painful experience of losing a coworker before he had the chance to share the gospel clearly with him. Have you ever experienced a moment where an opportunity to share Christ passed before you took it? How did that affect you?

Ron said, "We don't ever talk about what happens when that opportunity ceases to exist." Why do you think the church tends to avoid that conversation? What would it look like to take it more seriously?

Jesus said in John 14:6 that no one comes to the Father except through Him. Ron noted that this is not a welcome message in today's culture. How do you personally navigate sharing this truth with people who might find it offensive or exclusive?

Ron mentioned that the Holy Spirit is the one who draws people to God, but that believers are called to be active witnesses, disciple-makers, and fishers of men. How do you hold those two truths in balance in your own approach to sharing the gospel?

Ron challenged the group to imagine what the church could look like in six months, one year, or three years if every member committed to praying faithfully for one to three people by name. Does that vision feel realistic to you? What would need to change in your own life for it to become a reality?

Practical Applications:

1. Write down one to three names of people you know who do not yet know Jesus. Place that list somewhere you will see it daily, such as in your Bible, on your phone, or on a notepad by your bed. Pray over those names each day.
2. Read John 14:1-6 slowly and prayerfully. Ask God to give you both the courage and the right words to share what Jesus said with someone who has a troubled heart.
3. If you are unsure of your own salvation or do not have full assurance that your name is in the Lamb's Book of Life, reach out to your pastor, a group leader, or a trusted believer this week. Do not let that question go unanswered.

Closing Thought/Prayer:

Ron closed with a prayer asking God to impress on every heart the names of people who need Jesus and to give each believer faithful opportunities to show them the way. As you close your group time, consider praying specifically for the names each person has written down, asking God to open hearts, create opportunities, and give each member the courage to speak clearly and lovingly about Jesus Christ.