

Jesus Will Return

BIBLE PASSAGE: Revelation 21–22

MAIN POINT: Jesus will come back and make all things new.

KEY PASSAGE: Revelation 21:5

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What will happen when Jesus comes back? Jesus will make all things new.

**TEACH
THE STORY**
(15–20 MINUTES)
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**EXPERIENCE
THE STORY**
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**REVIEW
THE STORY**
(10+ MINUTES)
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Leader BIBLE STUDY

While he was a prisoner on the island of Patmos, the apostle John had an amazing vision of heaven. Jesus told John to write down everything he saw. John saw things that will happen when Jesus comes back to earth.

In the final chapters of the Book of Revelation, John described a vision of heaven itself. He wrote about the beauty of the New City—the New Jerusalem. The streets will be pure gold, like clear glass. The foundations of the city wall will be adorned with precious stones. The city will

not need the sun or the moon because God's glory lights up the city. There will be no darkness, and nothing evil will ever come into the city. There will be no sadness, crying, or pain. Even though there will be no sun or moon, there will be no darkness because the glory of God will be its light. The Lord will reign forever and ever. What an amazing place heaven will be!

Even with John's descriptions, we can't imagine exactly what it will be like when Jesus returns. Use this session to emphasize what we do know, using the unit big picture question and answer: What will happen when Jesus comes back? Jesus will make all things new.

The promised return of Christ should fill believers with hope, strengthening them to persevere through the trials of this life and remain faithful to the Lord. When Christ returns, those who trust in Him will be with Him and enjoy Him forever. God will undo every bad thing caused by sin—no more death, no more pain, no more tears.

Christ's return should also give believers a sense of urgency to share the gospel with the world. It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes! (Rom. 1:16) Jesus is coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!



Additional resources for each session are available at gospelproject.com. For free training and session-by-session help, visit <http://www.ministrygrid.com/web/the-gospel-project>.

The BIBLE STORY

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Use props:** Use props to help tell the Bible story, such as jewels, gold, glass, the lights, and water.
- **Pacing and tone:** Start the story speaking normally, but gradually increase the pace at which you speak, adding excitement as you go. When you reach the words spoken by Jesus, drop your voice to a whisper and speak deliberately to emphasize His promise to return.

Jesus Will Return

Revelation 21–22

John had a vision of heaven. He heard a large crowd of people praising God. **John saw the things that will happen when Jesus comes back to earth, and he wrote about what he saw.**

John saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth had disappeared. **He also saw the Holy City, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.**

John heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, **“Look! God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain. These things are gone forever.”**

John saw an angel come and carry him to a high mountain. The angel showed him the holy city of Jerusalem. The city was shining with God’s glory. The foundations of the city wall had every type of jewel, and the city street was made of pure gold, as clear as glass.

The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. **The glory of God gives light to the city, and there is no darkness. The city is safe and clean; nothing unclean is in the city and no one will do wrong things in the city.**

Then the angel showed John the river of living water. It sparkled and flowed from God’s throne. God’s servants will see His face, and they will worship Him. The Lord will reign forever and ever.

Jesus said, “Listen, I am coming soon! I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

Jesus is the One who says that all of these things will happen. He is coming soon.

“Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!”

Christ Connection: Jesus said that He is coming back soon. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain, or tears! Jesus is making all things new.

Teach THE STORY

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BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What will happen when Jesus comes back? Jesus will make all things new.

Welcome and worship with song

- “One Heart” song
- “I Stand Amazed” song

Greet preschoolers with a smile. As preschoolers arrive, sing an action song such as “One Heart” to engage them and help them feel welcomed. Begin worship by leading preschoolers in “I Stand Amazed.”

Watch or tell the Bible story

- Bible
- “Jesus Will Return” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Main Point Poster
- Giant Timeline or Big Story Circle

Ask preschoolers to tell you what they would do on their best day ever. Tell preschoolers what you would do.

SAY • We have so much to look forward to! Do you know why? Because our best day ever is coming. Jesus will come back and make all the bad things right. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain. But the best part is that we will get to be with Jesus forever. Every day will be the best day ever.

Open your Bible to Revelation 21. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

- Bible
- Key Passage Poster
- Bible marker or ribbon
- “Making Everything New” song

Practice the key passage and a Bible skill

Place a Bible marker or ribbon at Revelation 21:5. Invite a few volunteers to come up one at a time and open your

Bible to the key passage.

SAY • Jesus is coming back soon. When He comes back He will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain, or tears! Jesus will make all things new.

Sing the key passage song “Making Everything New” together.

Learn the big picture question and answer

SAY • Let’s see if you can answer the big picture question:

What will happen when Jesus comes back? Does anyone remember the answer? *Jesus will make all things new.* That’s right! Jesus will make a new heaven and new earth—even better than the first ones, and we will live with Him forever!

• Big Picture Question Poster

Respond through song and prayer

SAY • **Jesus said that He is coming back soon.** When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain, or tears! Jesus will come back and make all things new.

Sing “I Stand Amazed” and “God Alone” as preschoolers move with the music. Prepare for prayer by singing “Jesus, Thank You.” You may also collect an offering.

SAY • Jesus, we are so thankful that You will come back and make all things new. We look forward to worshiping You forever and ever! Amen.

• Main Point Poster
• “I Stand Amazed” song
• “God Alone” song
• “Jesus, Thank You” song
• offering basket

Transition to experience the story

• countdown video (optional)

Experience THE STORY

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• *Happy/Sad signs*

Statements:

- Grandma comes to visit.
- You fall down.
- You get a puppy.
- Your friend can't come over to play.
- Your family goes out for ice cream.
- Your dog gets sick.
- You get a present for your birthday.

- plastic jewels or colored rocks
- clean, empty egg carton (optional)

Show happy or sad

Draw a happy face and write the word *HAPPY* on a sheet of paper. Draw a sad face and write the word *SAD* on a sheet of paper. Tape each paper to opposite walls in the room. Invite the children to stand in the middle of the room. Call out statements that children may experience, and invite children to move to the side of the room with the corresponding emotion they would feel.

SAY • Jesus will come back and make all things new. God will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain or tears! When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever.

Sort jewels

Invite the children to sort colored jewels or colored rocks. Sort in different ways by shape, color, and amount. Consider using clean, empty egg cartons to help children sort.

SAY • Jesus will come back and make all things new. Jesus said that He is coming back soon. John wrote that new city of Jerusalem will be made of beautiful jewels of every color. Everyone who trusts in Jesus will be with Him forever.

Experiment with light

Invite the children to explore creating light with flashlights. Turn off the lights and let the children shine their light around the room.

SAY • **Jesus will come back and make all things new.** In the new Jerusalem, there will be no more darkness. The glory of God will bring light to the city. We will worship Jesus forever and ever.

- flashlights

Tip: Remind preschoolers to not shine light in each others' eyes.

Walk on gold streets

Tape yellow or gold-colored paper to the floor to make a path. Lead the children to walk around the room only stepping on the gold paper. Allow the children to take turns being the line leader.

SAY • John saw a city with streets made of pure gold, as clear as glass. **Jesus will come back and make all things new!** When He does, we will get to live with Him forever in the new heaven and new earth.

- yellow or gold paper
- tape

Decide between old and new

Place new objects and old but clean objects in an opaque bag. Potential items include new socks and socks with holes, new books and books with torn or worn pages, new toys and toys with missing parts, new markers and dried out markers, new crayons and broken crayons, and so forth. Invite preschoolers to pull out items one at a time and decide if the item is old or new.

SAY • **Jesus will come back and make all things new!** When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain, or tears! Jesus said that He is coming back soon.

- opaque bag
- new objects
- old but clean objects

Transition to review the story

- countdown video (optional)

Review THE STORY

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Review

Point to the giant timeline or big story circle as you review today's Bible story. Ask the following review questions:

1. What did John see in his vision? (*heaven*)
2. What came down out of heaven? (*a new Jerusalem*)
3. What were the city walls be made of? (*jewels*)
4. What were the streets be made of? (*gold*)
5. What gave light to the city? (*God's glory*)
6. Who is coming soon? (*Jesus*)
7. ***What will happen when Jesus comes back? Jesus will make all things new.***

SAY • John saw a vision of heaven. John saw what will happen when Jesus comes back to earth. A new city of Jerusalem came down out of heaven from God. God will live with His people and His glory will light the city. There will be no darkness, no sadness, no pain, no death. **Jesus will come back and make all things new.**

Sing the unit theme song or key passage song.

Pray

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have.

SAY • Jesus, we pray that You come soon! We wait for You

to come back and make all things new. We thank You that one day we will have no more fear, pain, or sadness. Thank You for coming back to make all things new. Amen.

Missions story

If your preschool ministry is planning a missions activity, discuss the activity, the reasons for it, and your group's progress. If you are not participating in a missions activity, talk about missionaries who go to other parts of the world to tell people about the good news of Jesus. You may also show the "Olwethu's Story" video.

SAY • Olwethu lives in South Africa with her mom and little sister. Her dad died when she was little. Olwethu has lived a hard life, but she believes in Jesus. When Jesus comes back to make all things new, He will wipe away Olwethu's tears and she will worship Jesus forever.

- "Olwethu's Story" video
- "Missions Prayer Cards" printable, 1 per child

Draw a favorite place

Give children paper and crayons or markers. Guide preschoolers to close their eyes and imagine their favorite place. Invite children to draw their favorite place. Ask questions about preschoolers favorite places as they work.

SAY • Living with Jesus forever in the new heaven and the new earth will be even better than anything we can imagine. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain, or tears!

Jesus will come back and make all things new.

Jesus said that He is coming back soon.

- paper
- crayons or markers