

# Study Guide

This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from under a chair in the Worship Center. They are there for you to take home and use! Message manuscripts are available at [www.spwired.com](http://www.spwired.com).

**Monday** – This week our study guide readings will focus on what heaven might be like. One way we might infer a bit of what heaven might be like would be to look at what the Garden of Eden was like – this was paradise before sin entered the world, and with it, death. **Read Genesis 1:28-3:19** looking for how life was originally meant to be by God, and what changed after Adam and Eve sinned. What can you infer from this about what heaven might be like?

**Tuesday** – **Read Isaiah 2:1-5, Isaiah 11:1-9 and Isaiah 65:17-25.** Note that the prophet paints a picture of the new heaven and new earth that is based upon what he knows of this earth. How should these pictures of heaven shape how we live on earth now? What do they teach us about what life will be like when God makes all things new?

**Wednesday** – We learned this past Sunday that Jesus came and gave us, in his ministry and teachings, glimpses of what life is like in heaven. His resurrection body is the only glimpse we have of what our own bodies might be like in heaven. In each miracle of Jesus we catch a foretaste of heaven – a place where the blind see, the lame walk, the sick are made well a place where there is no hunger or poverty. In his love of sinners we see a heavenly realm where God has welcomed the lost. In his teachings about the first and the last, and our need to become like children, and his call for us to be servants he teaches us about how life works in heaven. **Read Matthew 18:1-4.** What does this tell us about heaven, and how might it shape how we live today to prepare for heaven? **Read John 14:1-4.** Now, let's look at Jesus' resurrection body and see what we might infer about our heavenly bodies from these passages. **Read Luke 24:28-35, 36-43.** What was Jesus' resurrection body capable of?

**Thursday** – The Heavenly Vision of the Apostles. In the New Testament the Church was meant to be a community that gives a foretaste of heaven and, when believers gather for worship Christ is present in their midst in a way that foreshadows heaven. **Read I Corinthians 15:35-58.** Verse 58 gives us the implication of our hope in heaven for our daily lives. Hebrews refers to heaven as our "Sabbath rest" – when you think of rest and renewal, what do you think of? How might heaven be like this? While the apostles speak frequently of our hope for eternal life, they seldom try to describe what heaven will be like. Why do you think this is?

**Friday** – Today we turn to the Book of Revelation where we have the most detailed pictures of what heaven will be like. As you read, ask what the author is trying to convey about heaven by his metaphorical description. **Read Revelation 21 and 22:1-5.** How can your hope in heaven positively shape your Christian life and faith today? This life is the journey that has heaven as its final destination. Are you preparing for heaven now? How?

## Prayer Concerns

### Serving in the military:

Deric Croan  
Summer Garner  
Cyle Haywood  
Jesse Smith  
Nathan Lawellin  
Matthew Peak  
Stephen Leadbetter  
Richard Hurst  
James Lesmeister  
Kourtney Lesmeister  
Jon Arnold  
Jason Lewis  
Chris Palmer  
Jeff Foust  
Michael Norvell  
Wally Warber  
Kristin Carter  
Grant Meador  
Greg Addington  
Sanford Frogg  
Brett Mardis

### Mitchell Kent Health & Healing

Jacob Hutter  
Estell Maloney  
Jr. & Carrol Skelton  
Shirley Oxendine  
Tracy Oxendine  
Skip Drouin  
Marge Lewis  
Brian & Tina Harter  
Sue Lightle

### Cancer Treatment:

Tom Feltenberger  
Terry Osborne  
Lisa Raihl  
Dottie Maloney  
Jack Harper  
Cindy Martin  
Easton Murdock  
Rose Hymer  
Tony Allen  
Joyce Pace

### Joey Walker

### Other Concerns:

Courtney & Avery Curato  
MaDonna Curato  
Maria Martin  
Makiah Newman  
Ascent Houses  
Miguel, Mario, Mary Soriano  
Atsuko Mettachs  
Kathleen Cupp  
Jeremy Whatley & Family  
Steve & Irma Cornell  
Mike Hattin  
Ron Curtis  
James & Simone Lesmeister  
Kayla & Kortney Lesmeister  
Carli Thompson  
Melissa Thompson  
Laura Shadwick