

Growth Group Questions

All Saints Day Celebrated, November 5, 2023

Introduction

The Christian Church celebrates All Saints Day on November 1st. We remember this day together in worship on the first Sunday of November every year. To start your study say a prayer together for the saints who entered heaven among your family and friends this year.

Into the Word – Revelation 7:9-17

1. The book of Revelation is a repetition of the same truths in seven different pictures, rather than a chronological history of the future. Our text falls during a vision of seven scrolls. The first four scrolls showed suffering in the world. The fifth showed the believers crying out “how long?” In the sixth we find unbelievers cowering and God marking his believers for salvation. Now we see a picture of heaven. If you have time compare this to the other visions of seven and see how the cycle repeats. Seeing this, summarize the theme of this book in one sentence.
2. Explain the symbolism of both the white robes and the palm branches for the saints in heaven.
3. Remember Revelation is a figurative and picture-filled book. Will heaven just be a time of God’s people standing around God’s throne and singing all the time? What truths about heaven does this picture teach us? What else do you think heaven will be like?
4. Consider the VERY important verb tense in verse 14. (“They who are coming out” not “they who have come out”?)
 - When is this great tribulation?
 - When do believers enter the glory of heaven?

5. What is your favorite picture out of the blessings in verses 15-17?

Into the Word – 1 John 3:1-3

6. Did you know the Bible never calls unbelievers “children of God”? That term is reserved for those adopted by faith into God’s family. Why is that such a special designation?
7. What does verse two mean when it says we will one day be “like Christ”?
8. Verse three is in the present tense, showing us that this “purifying” John speaks is something believers are to do now on earth. How do we purify ourselves?

Into the Word – Matthew 5:1-12

9. We perhaps don’t connect these “Beatitudes” from Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount to heavenly glory, but it is a fitting reading. Where does Jesus teach us to keep our focus?
10. Look back two questions and see if some of the characteristics Jesus promotes here were part of your Christian purity answers there. Hopefully they were!
11. Which of the qualities of blessing are the hardest for you? Why?

Closing Prayer (Lyrics from “Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See”)

Lord, when your glory I shall see and taste your kingdom’s pleasure, your blood my royal robe shall be, my joy beyond all measure! When I appear before your throne, your righteousness shall be my crown; with these I need not hide me. And there, in garments richly wrought, as your own bride I shall be brought, to stand in joy beside you. AMEN!