

# What Happens When I Die...

## Discussion Guide

Week of May 7 - **"Hell"**

**Scripture verse: Revelation 20:11-15**

### **LOOKING BACK:**

Has it ever occurred to you that God actually created heaven here on earth in the beginning? He made a special place where he walked in the garden with Adam and Eve. He spent time in their presence as they did in His. They did not work for food, for money, or possessions. They had no wants or needs. God prepared and provided for them so that He could enjoy being with them. That reality is what He wanted to share with you, too! Can you imagine what that would be like?

When we met last, we talked about God's plan to restore an eternity in heaven with him, but not everyone will be there. Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) Is there anyone near you that is far from God who should hear this? Have you shared this good news with that person? If not, what keeps you from opening the conversation? (Pause for a minute to let this question sink in to the group)

Ask one of your group members to read 2 Peter 3:9 - "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

Choose a group member to pray for your group as you move into this week's study of Scripture. Pray for the Holy Spirit to provide wisdom and understanding of God's word. Ask Him to open hearts and minds to receive clear understanding, and eyes to see the opportunities He will provide throughout the coming week.

### **LOOKING UP:**

The idea of heaven gives us a sense of peace and comfort, and it can make it easy to disregard the reality of hell. We get comfortable with the idea that we are "good" people and turn a blind eye to the uncomfortable truth of hell. There are a lot of "good" people who will spend an eternity in hell because they do not know Jesus, have not made him Lord of their lives, repented of their sins, and taken up his work of making disciples. This week's passage may provide some understanding. As you prepare to discuss the first two questions, below, choose a group member to read the passage in Revelation 20:11-15.

**READ THE PASSAGE**  
**Revelation 20:11-15**

Answer the first 2 questions after reading the passage

1. What stood out to you most?
2. What was challenging or hard to understand?
3. What does this teach us about God?
4. What does this teach us about people?

**RE-READ THE PASSAGE**

Read passage again using another Bible translation... then answer the last 2 questions

**LOOKING FORWARD:**

Have a group member pray to wrap up this week's study. Pray for repentance among the members of the group, for a changing of hearts, and the understanding that NOW is the time to share this teaching with the ones we love. Pray for boldness to overcome the fear of sharing faith with loved ones.

If the idea of an eternity in hell gives you pause, you might want to do a little self-reflection. At the end of your life, will Jesus say he never knew you? Will he say that about people in your life who are important to you? What do you need to do today to have assurance of your eternity and/or that of your family and friends. Who is one person near you that needs to hear about the Good News. As a group, write down on paper the name of someone who comes to your mind. Plan to meet with that person and start the conversation. Come back next week ready to share that encounter.