
“Making Things New”

Sunday School Lesson from Revelation 21:1-7



Making Things New and Hoping in Heaven...

Heaven can be a tricky topic to teach. In fact, it can be hard for adults to understand the themes of Revelation or to grasp what awaits us after life on earth has passed away. To be sure, we cannot know with certainty what will happen as our earthly bodies slip away, but the main message of eschatology should be one of hope. We can know that what God has in store for us is bigger and better than anything we can possibly imagine. As we communicate this message to kids, we want to remind them that God can take even the worst things in our lives and make them beautiful.

Lesson focus: God is the beginning and the end of all things. He promises that one day He will take all things and make them new again. We might not know what Heaven will look like, but we can be sure that God will take away all of our sadness and tears and turn them into joy. It can be difficult to imagine or understand, but we can take hope in the fact that for those who love the Lord, life after death will be wonderful.

Passage: Revelation 21:1-7

Target Audience: Kindergarten-6th Grade (adaptable older or younger)

Materials Needed: Toys or items that can come apart; “broken” or breakable things; jigsaw puzzles; recyclable materials (paper towel or toilet paper tubes, boxes, etc.); decorative materials.

Optional: This lesson plan contains some coloring pages from our website if you need additional material.

Lesson Introduction Activity

Can you fix it? Start with a little challenge...present kids with a toy or object that needs fixed. Some toys are meant to come apart and be put back together. If you don't have one of these, purposely break apart a game, a pen, or a toy, and give it to students. Or dump a puzzle on a table. Invite children to re-build the items. You might want to make this into a race and have students group into teams to see which can fix items faster.

Alternatively (or additionally), play a game of "make it new art"... have children draw a simple picture. Pass pictures to another artist, and invite the new illustrator to change the original and make it something new. For extra challenge (or older kids), encourage the first drawing to be a little sad, and the changed item to be more uplifting.

Explain to students that today we will look at some Bible verses that talk about making things new.

Revelation 21:1-17 Bible Lesson

Start off with a discussion question... What do you think Heaven will be like? Will it be floating on clouds? Lots of singing? Unlimited and non-caloric ice cream? Explain to kids that the Bible does not share all of the details, but it gives us some clues about what Heaven might be like. The most important things it tells us is that things will be beautiful and new, and that we will be with God. The book of Revelation talks about what will happen at the end of the world that we know. Take a peek....

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. -Rev. 21:1-3

Does any of this seem strange? Some people might think it's a little funny that the Bible says Jerusalem is like a bride. How can a city be like a bride, or wear clothes? Well, think about a bride walking down the aisle to her husband. Usually there is great joy, and hope, and excitement for things to come, right? In these verses, we can imagine a glorious new beginning to things. God is promising to be with people. The city is not just Jerusalem as we know it in Israel, but all of creation. That sounds pretty neat, but it gets even better!

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” -Rev. 21:4

Discuss with children things that are painful... What makes you sad? Are there things that make you cry? When was the last time you got hurt or needed a band aid? Sometimes life is rough. Things can be very challenging. But check this out! In Heaven, God promises to take away all of that hurt. The boo-boos will heal. The crying will end. All of the old crusty junk will be gone!

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”⁶ And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. -Rev. 21:5-7

This is truly a glorious promise, and has some interesting things to note. These words are from God. What is He saying? One of the key highlights is that God is making all things new. He is fixing what’s broken and making it better. Now, this doesn’t necessarily say God is making all new things. He is not replacing, but restoring. He’s getting rid of the imperfections and making things even better. Will we have bodies when we are in Heaven? Well, there’s a whole lot of research and writing on that topic...but it’s safe to say we very well might, and that they will be sort of like our bodies, but unbreakable and much better. Thinking about the new beauty of Heaven might be like comparing a gorgeous waterfall or beach to a hastily drawn crayon picture. The picture can convey an idea of what we would experience in nature, but it’s nothing like the real sounds and smells and feel that accompany truly being there. Our present life and world are only a dirty glimpse of

what really awaits us. Or perhaps it's like baking a cake. When the ingredients are put together and placed under high temperatures, things that were bland or inedible on their own (raw eggs, flour, salt) become brand new and wonderful.

Faulty analogies aside, we can rest assured that God's words are indeed "trustworthy and true." The passage says that God is "Alpha and Omega." These are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. Sort of like saying God is A and Z. He began everything and will end everything. He is promising to give the thirsty a drink and the hungry food. He will be there for us no matter what happens. We can rest assured that whatever else happens after this life, God will be there. He will comfort, protect, guide and strengthen us. He will make all things new. He will transform our lives and make them amazing! Amen!

Close with prayer and thanks to God for making all things new. Express trust in Him as the Alpha and Omega, author and finisher of all things.

Craft Idea

Make something new!

Provide children with a variety of scrap materials. You might even ask ahead of time to have them bring some in (tubes, boxes, cloth, papers, etc.). Invite kids to get creative and make something new out of the “junk.”

Attach a verse (Revelation 21:5). It could be anything from a functional tool or a fictitious friend... have fun!

The next page of this lesson can be copied for the verse template.

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." -Revelation 21:5

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Revelation 21:1-7 NIV

A New Heaven and a New Earth

21 Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,”^[a] for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’^[b] or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

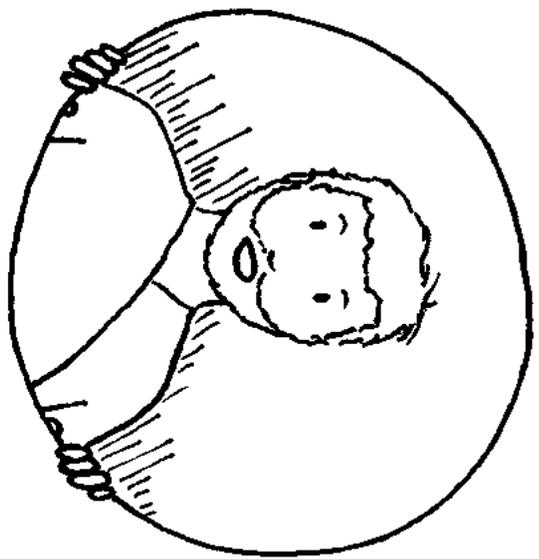
⁶ He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Footnotes:

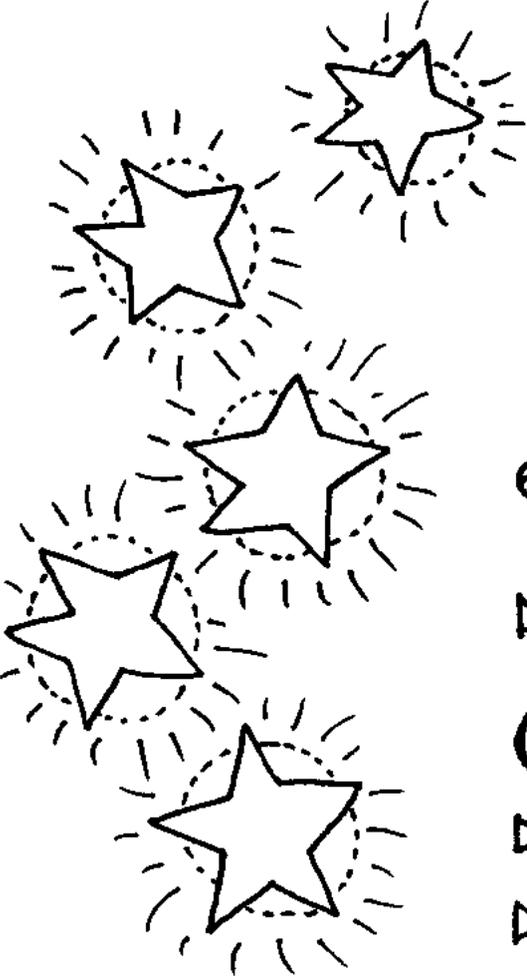
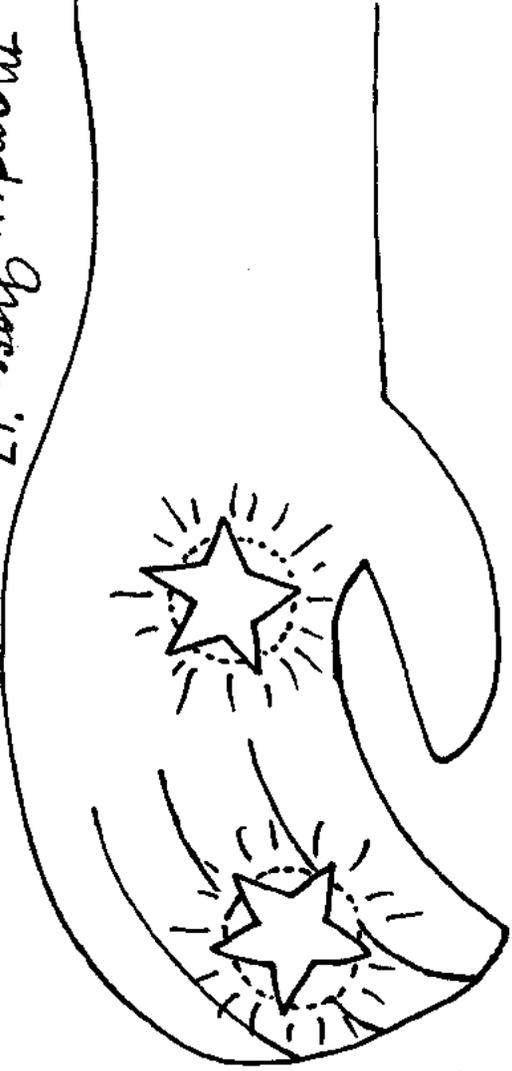
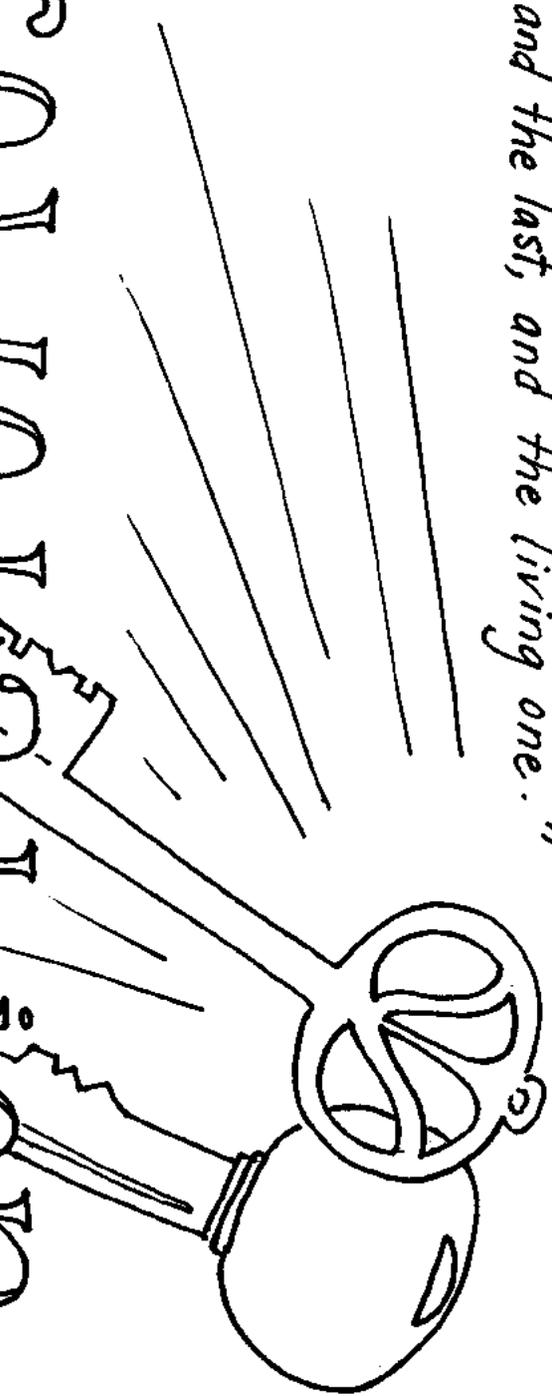
a. [Revelation 21:1](#) Isaiah 65:17

b. [Revelation 21:4](#) Isaiah 25:8

"Fear not; I am the first and the last, and the living one."



THE FIRST



Mandy Grace '17

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Divisions of the Bible

New Testament – Prophecy

| |
|-------------------|
| Revelation |
|-------------------|

Who Was John?

John and his brother James were two of Jesus' twelve disciples. They were probably Jesus' cousins. John wrote five New Testament books – John (a gospel), 1 John, 2 John, and 3 John (letters), and Revelation (prophecy). When John was an old man, he was put on an island as punishment for preaching about Jesus. On the island John saw a vision (dream) of Jesus and wrote the book of Revelation.

Messages for the Churches

Jesus gave John messages with advice for seven churches in Asia. These are found in Revelation 2 and 3. Here are some of the things he said.

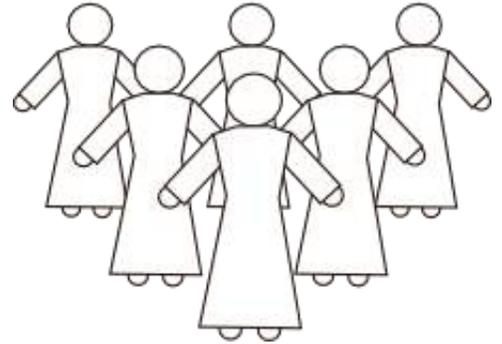
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| 23 | 8 | 1 | 20 | | 25 | 15 | 21 | | 8 | 1 | 22 | 5 | |
| 23 | 8 | 15 | 5 | 22 | 5 | 18 | | 8 | 1 | 19 | | | |
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| 8 | 5 | 1 | 18 | | 23 | 8 | 1 | 20 | | 20 | 8 | 5 | |
| 19 | 16 | 9 | 18 | 9 | 20 | | 19 | 1 | 25 | 19 | | 20 | 15 |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | |
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Heaven

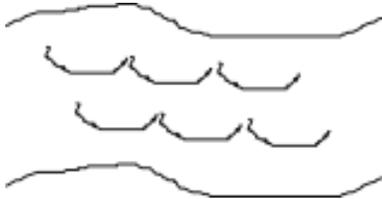
If we believe in Jesus, then we will go to heaven after we die and live with God forever. The book of Revelation tells about what is in heaven. Color the pictures to learn what we will see in heaven.



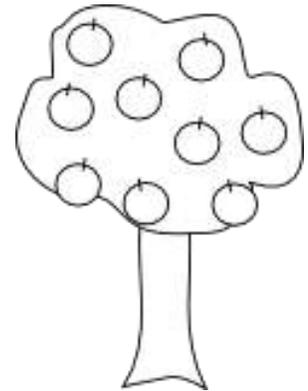
God's throne
(Revelation 2)



Angels
(Revelation 2)



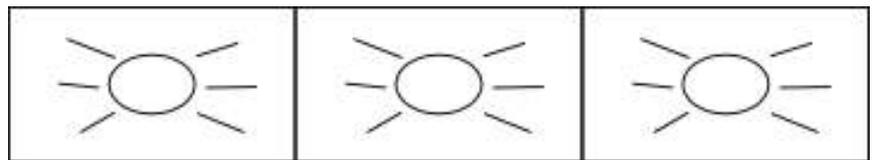
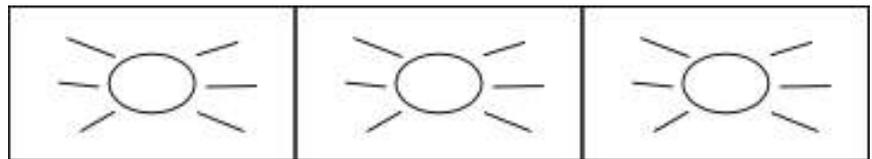
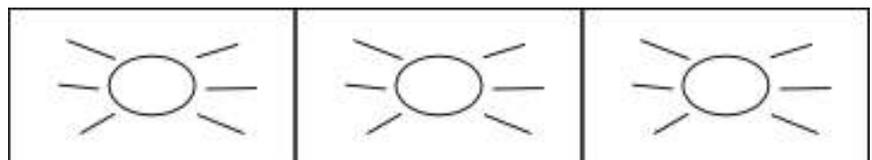
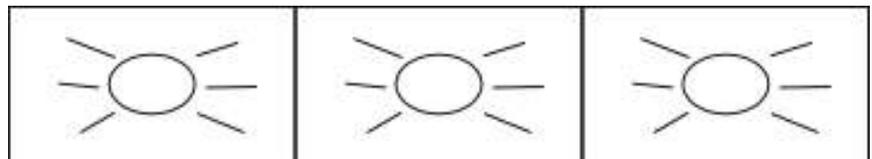
The river of life
(Revelation 22)

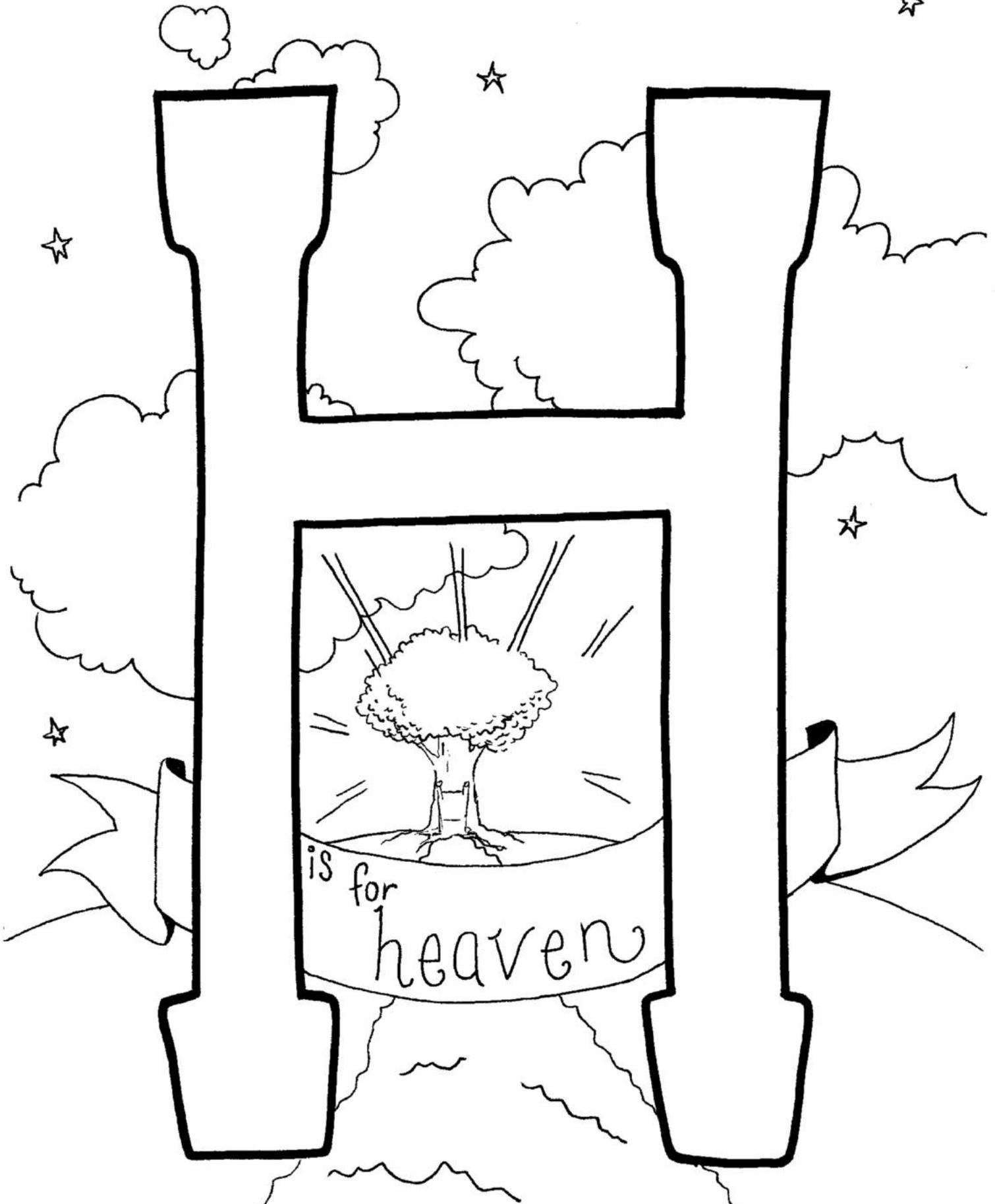


The tree of life
(Revelation 22)

A city wall made with
12 beautiful jewels
(precious stones)
(Revelation 21)

Try to color each jewel a
different color.





Heaven Craft Ideas

Children's Ministry craft activities on the New Heaven and New Earth described in Revelation 21:1-7



Making All Things New: Craft Ideas for the Hope of Heaven and Restoration. Life is full of challenges, but as Christians we have the blessing of knowing that something wonderful awaits us after this life. In Revelation, we receive the promise that God will wipe away our tears, give us a new home, and make all things new. Even young children can take heart in knowing that sickness and sorrow don't last and we have great things to look forward to. These crafts aim to celebrate that hope. "Crayon Cupcakes" demonstrate creating something new from something old and tarnished. A "Tears Wiped Away Hankie" offers a decorative reminder that God will wipe away our tears.

Bible Verses or Craft Caption Ideas to Consider... (Revelation 21:1-7)

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." -Revelation 21:4

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." -Revelation 21:5

God makes all things new!

Tears no more...God wipes away our tears!

We cry now...someday our tears will be gone! (read more [Bible verses about Heaven](#))

More Bible Teaching Activities on Heaven

- Watch the video of this [children's sermon lesson](#) and related [Bible craft activities](#)
- Download our [New Heaven & New Earth Sunday School lesson on Revelation 21:1-7](#)
- Compare our [Heaven is Awesome Bible Lesson for Kids Church](#)
- See our [preschool Bible lesson on Heaven for children](#) ages 2-5 years old
- Download [H is for Heaven Coloring Page](#) or [Heaven Craft Activity](#) or [Revelation Worksheet](#)

Heaven Craft one: "Crayon Cupcakes"

You will need:

- Construction paper or cardstock
- Crayons (old recommended)
- Cupcake liners and tins or silicone molds

Procedure:

1. Peel the wrappers off assorted crayons.
2. Break crayons into pieces.
3. Arrange crayon pieces in cupcake liners or silicone molds.
4. Bake crayons for 7-10 minutes at 225 degrees. Use as you would any crayon, with the fun bonus of added colors!



Heaven Craft Two: "Wipe Away Tears Hankie"

You will need:

- Construction Paper or cardstock
- Fabric or handkerchief/bandana
- Tacky glue
- Stickers and decorative supplies
- Scissors
- Permanent or fabric markers
- Twine, yarn, or string
- Beads or decoration, if desired



Procedure:

1. Use fabric markers or Sharpies to write on and decorate the hankie or fabric
2. Add verses and captions, as well as glued on gems, beads, or stickers.
3. Tie string to the corners of the handkerchief.
4. Add beads and additional decorations if desired. Use the string to carry or display the hankie, or use it to wipe away tears!



The Hope of Heaven

Children's Sermon Lesson on the New Heaven and New Earth described in Revelation 21:1-7



Lesson Summary: This message reassures children with the comforting hope of the resurrection. Though life on Earth is full of challenges, someday we will be with the Lord, and all things will be made new. Use simple items such as flashlights, tissues, band-aids, or water to explain how Heaven is wonderful enough to not require any “preparation supplies.” We won’t need tissues because God will dry our tears. There will be no pain, sickness, or sadness. We won’t even need light because the light of Christ will illuminate things! We can’t fully imagine how wonderful our future home will be.

Law/Gospel Theme: Young children (hopefully) don’t face thoughts of death very often, but they still encounter the fears and hardships of daily life. It’s important for them to remember that because of Jesus, we can look forward to the future and what awaits us after this life. The world now and what we do while we are here are all just a blink compared with eternity. The death and resurrection of Christ allow us to have hope that someday we, too, will rise again and have no more sickness or sorrow. This is a joyful and comforting thought for anyone, old or young!

Optional Object Lesson Materials: Simple items to illustrate things that won’t be necessary in Heaven: ideas include tissues, band-aids, medicine, water, or lights/flashlights.

Bible Passage: Revelation 21:1-7 (ready more [Bible verses about Heaven](#))

More Bible Teaching Activities on Heaven

- Watch the video of this [children’s sermon lesson](#) and related [Bible craft activities](#)
- Download our [New Heaven & New Earth Sunday School lesson on Revelation 21:1-7](#)
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New Heaven and New Earth Children's Sermon from Revelation 21:1-7

Greet students and discuss some of life's hardships...

Hello, children of God! You know what I've noticed? Life can be tough. It is full of challenges and difficulties. And there are a lot of things that we need in order to face the hardships that come our way. *(As you describe, hold up items one by one.)* For instance, tissues! Sometimes we feel sad, and need a tissue to dry our tears. Or you might get a cold and need that tissue to blow your nose. You might also feel sick and need medicine to help you get better. Or sometimes you get hurt, and you need a band-aid to patch things up. Or how about this? Flashlights! There are times when things get dark, or perhaps the power goes out. It's important to have a flashlight ready to guide your way. Oh, and don't forget about sustenance! We need snacks and plenty of water to keep us going.

Phew, this sure is a lot of gear to lug around! Wouldn't it be nice if we didn't need all of this? In fact, wouldn't it be nice if we didn't face sickness, or sadness, or darkness at all? Well, guess what? I have some great news for you. Someday we won't need tissues or band-aids or medicine, or even water! We have some beautiful promises from God about how things will be in Heaven. God tells us that He is going to make all things new. When we finish this life on Earth, a new home awaits us, better than anything that we can imagine now. God says that He will wipe away every tear. We won't need tissues! There will be no more sorrow or sickness. There won't be pain. We won't even need the light of flashlights or the sun, because the light of Jesus will shine brightly. We won't need water, because God will give us living water. All of these things that trouble us now will be gone. No burdens, no hardships at all!

Of course, we don't know all of the details. We don't know when we will go to Heaven, and we don't know exactly what it will be like. But we have the hope that it will be wonderful. It's sort of like when you have a rough week at school, but you know there's something special or fun waiting for you when you get to the weekend. You can think about that special thing and feel a little better when times get rough. It is the same way in our lives. Yes, we have joyous moments, and we want to make the most of every day. But sometimes things get hard. When those times come, we know that this world is not our home, and difficulties won't last forever. God promises us eternal life with Him, free from all trials and pain. We can rest assured that something spectacular is waiting for us! So when we feel sad or

encounter challenges, we remember that there is hope in Heaven. God will make all things new, including our lives!

Let's say a prayer to thank God for the hope of Heaven and a future with Him.

Children's Prayer Moment:

(Have kids repeat each line, if desired)

Dear God,

Thank you for the hope of Heaven

We know you will comfort us with your peace

And wipe away our tears.

Help us to remember that when things are hard.

Thank you for loving us

We love you, God!

Thank you for Jesus

In His name, Amen!

Scriptures Verses / Bible Story to Reference:

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. 7 The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. -Revelation 21:1-7

Thank you for downloading these free materials. Our team is grateful for your trust and pray that God will bless your ministry.

This resource was prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#) (pictured right). She serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO. She has shared her teaching gifts through Ministry-To-Children since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.



Every week she writes new [Sunday School lessons](#), [Bible crafts](#), and [children's sermons](#).

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader. In addition to children's curriculum, she shares her student ministry activities and lesson ideas on [YouthGroupMinistry.com](#)

My name is [Tony Kummer](#) (pictured below). I started Ministry-To-Children.com in 2007 as a free resource for anyone sharing Jesus with kids. I am building three new websites. One is called [Ministry Answers](#) to help Christians find answers in God's Word. The other two are [Devotional Christian](#) and [10 Bible Verses](#) to help you focus on personal prayer and quiet times.



[Reader donations](#) and your support at [The Sunday School Store](#) fund these free materials. Please keep us in mind when you are choosing your next children's ministry curriculum. If you enjoy our material, be sure to [sign-up for my free email newsletter](#) called "Sunday School Works!" Every Tuesday, I send the latest new lessons, crafts, and coloring pages in print-friendly format to make your lesson planning easy. May God continue to bless your ministry!

Tony Kummer