

God in the iPod



PART 5: WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

PSALM 98

INTRODUCTION: The Return of The King

Where is all of this going, and what will it look like?

**“ .. heaven is important but it's not the end of the world.”
- N. T. Wright**

Heaven is ultimate _____ with God - It is the God realm.

HEAVENLY MYTH BUSTERS

MYTH #1: *When we die we will live with God forever in heaven as disembodied spirits.*

BOTTOM LINE:

We will enjoy God's rule on a new _____ with resurrected _____.
Rev 21:1-3, 2 Peter 3:13, Romans 8:18-25, 1 John 3:2

MYTH #2: *In the end times, Jesus will snatch us from the earth into heaven.*

BOTTOM LINE:

We are waiting to welcome Jesus as the _____ over all creation.

Philippians 3:20 Hebrews 9:28, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

MYTH #3: *We can't imagine what the age to come will be like.*

BOTTOM LINE:

We are called to _____ and embody God's work of renewal in every corner of _____.

2 Cor 5:17-19, Matthew 6:10, Colossians 3:15-17, Revelation 21:5

CONCLUSION - Living in the Light of the Return of The King.

Psalm 98:91 Corinthians 3:10-13, Rev 22:12

MY APPOINTMENT WITH GOD THIS WEEK: _____

TAKE AWAY QUESTIONS:

- 1. What are the resources and relationships that God has entrusted to you with – in every sphere in your life?**
- 2. Are you using those resources and serving those relationships in the light of Jesus' return?**

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged you.
2. Did any of the discussion on Sunday challenge some of your preconceptions of heaven? If so what?
3. Some people may still have some outstanding questions, make a note of those questions and try to find the answers in the coming week to bring back and share with the group.

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

4. Read our key text **Psalm 98**. (a) What verse stands out to you the most? Why? (b) Looking at **Psalm 98:1**. What kind of song does Psalm 98 feel like? In light of Israel's rocky history, why might they be looking to sing a 'new song'?
5. Read **Psalm 98:4-5** and then **Ephesians 5:19-20** (a) Why is music such a powerful way of communicating praise to God? (b) What do you think the text in Ephesians means when it says "make music in your heart"? (c) What might be a danger of constantly associating music with worship and praise? (d) What are some practical ways that we can express praise and worship as a community other than through music? (e) How can we express praise in our individual lives?
6. Read **Psalm 98:7-8 Genesis 1:21 and Romans 8:19-23**. (a) In light of God's renewing work in the world today, what should be our attitude towards environmental concerns? (b) To what extent does how we treat the environment reflect our values and the condition of our hearts? (c) Why do you think some Christ Followers might be nervous about getting too involved in this area? (b) What are some of the real or imagined barriers we face in being more environmentally friendly? (c) is there anything practically that the Home Church can do in small or large ways to show concern and care in this area?

SO WHAT?...

7. Read **Psalm 98:9** and then **2 Cor 2:14-17**. God is in the process of making things right in the world. (a) What does the 2 Cor. passage mean when it says that we are the "fragrance of life"? (b) What are some of the ways that we can bottle up that fragrance in our personal lives? (c) What are some ways that we could bottle up that fragrance as a Home Church community? (d) What are some practical ways that our Home Church can be more intentional about being the fragrance of life to our communities?