
“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

We hope you enjoy this free resource.

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I'm Tony Kummer - I started this website in 2007, but God is using it beyond my imagination. The mission is simple.

Help you tell kids about Jesus!

Our team is honored that you choose our material. Thank you for ...

- serving where God has placed you.
- telling children about Jesus.
- allowing us to be a part of your mission.

We don't ask for money, but we do need your help.

Please consider the following:

1. Comment on the website to encourage our authors.
2. Link to us from your blog or church website.
3. Share our posts on Pinterest or Facebook.
4. Tell a friend to google "Ministry to Children."
5. Add me (and our team) to your personal prayer list.

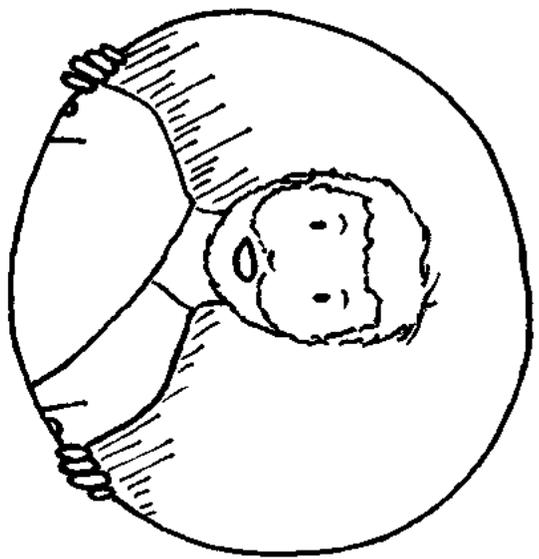
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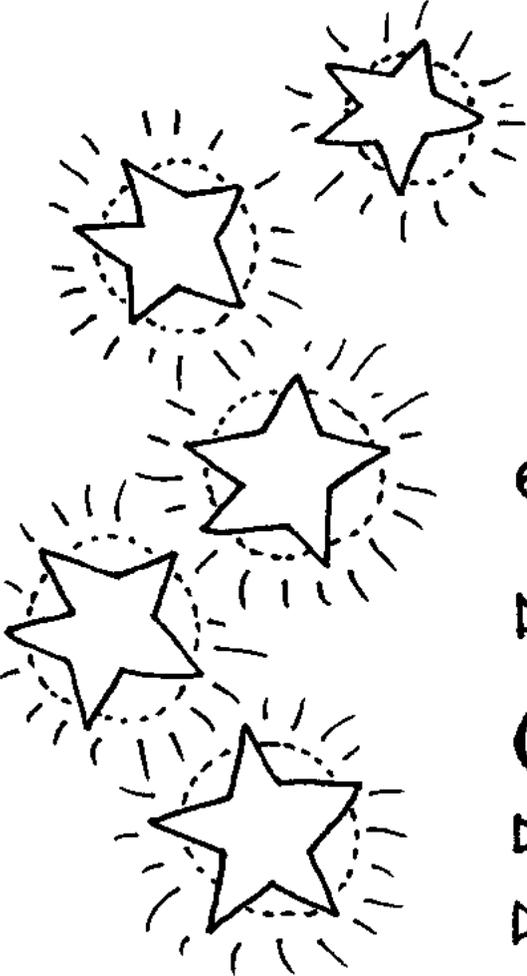
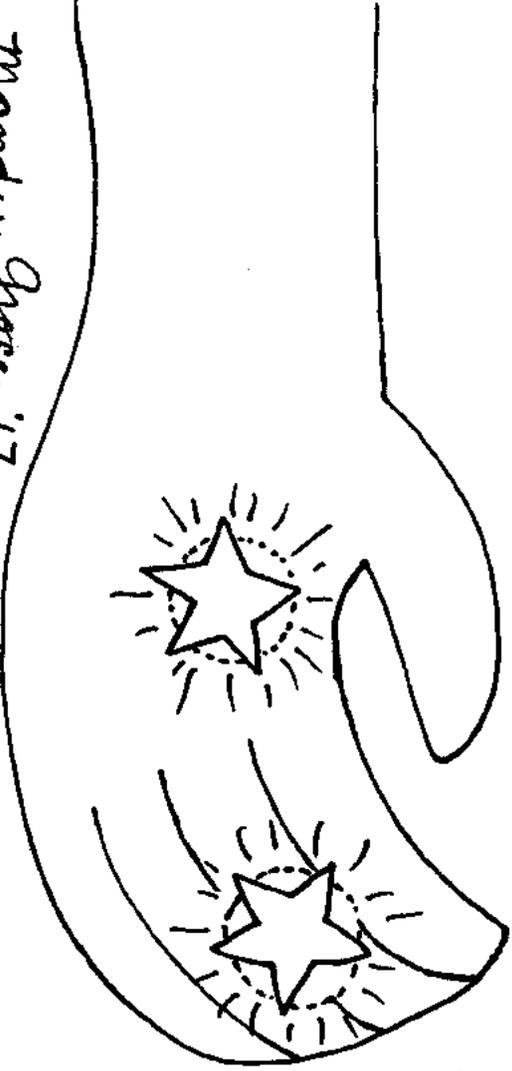
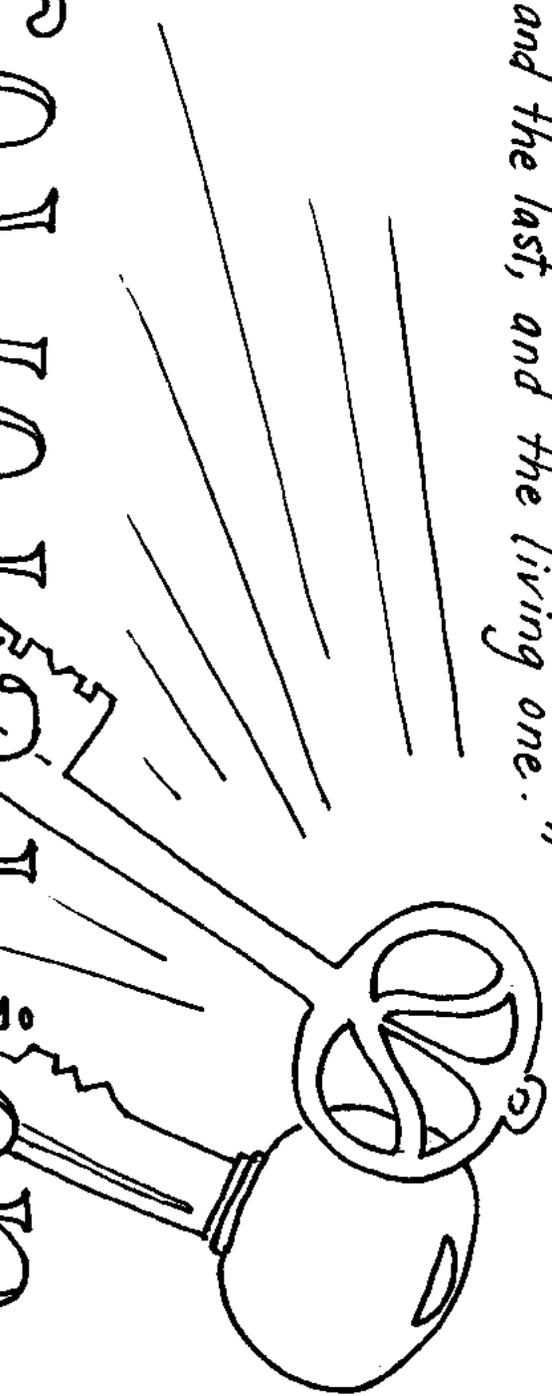
I'd love to hear your feedback on this download. Tony@ministry-to-children.com

May God bless you and continue to bless your ministry!

"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.

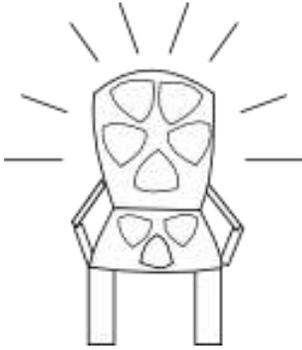
Messages for the Churches

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.

20	21	18	14		6	18	15	13		25	15	21	18
19	9	14	19										
8	15	12	4		6	9	18	13	12	25		20	15
23	8	1	20		25	15	21		8	1	22	5	
23	8	15	5	22	5	18		8	1	19			
5	1	18	19		12	5	20		8	9	13		
8	5	1	18		23	8	1	20		20	8	5	
19	16	9	18	9	20		19	1	25	19		20	15
20	8	5		3	8	21	18	3	8	5	19		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

Heaven

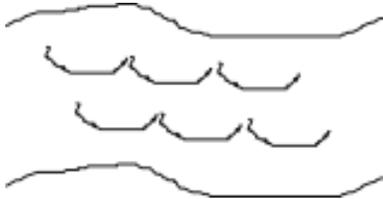
If we believe in Jesus, then we will go to heaven after we die and live with God forever. The book of Revelation tells about what is in heaven. Color the pictures to learn what we will see in heaven.



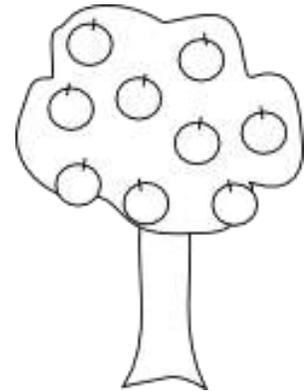
God's throne
(Revelation 2)



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.

