



WEEK 6 NOTES

This is a great wrap up week for our study. I don't have many notes, because I feel like the path Matt lead us through this week gave us great Scripture to reflect on when it comes to eternity. I hope it is super encouraging to the ladies in your group to persevere through this life, which can be a grind at times. Thanks again, to all of you leaders, for facilitating discussion and leading them through our study this fall. I am so thankful for each one of you.

Day 1 – The Cosmic Cross

Matt explores how the cross affects our future hope in this world. We looked up verses on page 127 that showed us how the natural world responded to the death of Christ- through splitting rocks, earthquakes, and tombs opening to release spirits into Jerusalem. We often gloss over the events like this. It is good to take some time to ponder them.

God's plan of redemption is not just for us spiritually, but for the creation as a whole. Amazing to think about isn't it? You are safe and secure in the power and wisdom of God.

Day 2 – A New Earth

I like the way that Matt distinguished what God would do with the new heaven and earth- it would be renewed, purged and refined, not destroyed altogether.

I never considered that heaven would be an experience of "ever increasing joy" in Christ. That is a lot to look forward to.

There are probably many women in your group who have lost a loved one. Did this dive into heaven help them or comfort them? I pray that it did.

Day 3 – Resurrected Bodies

I really liked the (invisible) prayer prompt for this day. *Pray today about your physical aches and pains, praising God that they remind you that the imperishable is coming soon.* What a way to reframe those physical troubles that can really wear me down at times. I loved that. As Christians, every time we feel the reality of aging and every time we go to a funeral- we can use that as an opportunity to worship God!

Day 4 – Immanuel

In eternity, Jesus will be with us. Psalm 16:11 says "*You make known to me the path of life. In your presence there is the fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*"

Even if we cannot fully understand heaven, and what it will be like to fully know God, we can trust in what we do know about Him, our life with Him, His faithfulness, and His lovingkindness. We can trust that eternity will be the best experience we can ever hope for.

Day 5 – A New Way To Live

This week provided such a perspective adjustment. I just loved 1 Corinthians 15:58- what a wonderful verse- I need to plaster it all over my world- mirror, car, desk....Let's dedicate everything we do to the Lord! We will never go wrong with this perspective!

The gospel causes us to re-align our desires. If we prioritize "winning" according to the world's standards over God's standards, we will lose spiritually. It is a losing battle- trying to maximize our pleasure, comfort and joy in the ways demonstrated by the world's powers will ultimately result in disillusionment and emptiness.

I love the very last question of this week: *How is your view of the gospel bigger now than it was when you began this study?* You could go around the group and end with this question. You could also ask the ladies how specifically you can be praying for their spiritual growth over our Christmas Break.