

## Group Study #1 APOCALYPSE

**Read:** Revelation 21

**Apocalypse Defined:** A complete destruction and renewal of Heaven, Earth and You!

**Truth-** I Understand that God is Making All Things New (Heaven, Earth, and YOU). Hollywood has turned the Apocalypse into something to be feared (like Zombies). The Bible defines the Apocalypse as something to be celebrated! The end of the world is not the end at all, but it's a new beginning. The new heaven and new earth are the culmination of the entire story of God's plan of restoring and redeeming an eternal relationship with His people. Finally, since the Garden of Eden, the people of God are back in a face to face relationship with God Himself for all eternity. Imagine the God of the universe wanting more than anything in the universe to dwell with you (Now, that is love). God took the initiative to CREATE you, DIE on the cross to cover your sin, PURSUE you with the Gospel of salvation, SAVE you from yourself and sin, RESURRECT you from the dead (unless we are alive when Jesus returns), and DWELL with you in heaven forever. Too often, people blame God and get angry at God for not acting on their behalf during tough times and suffering. God has done everything to dwell with us. Once God completely destroys and renews heaven, earth, and you, He will achieve what He desires most- "*He will dwell among them.*" Instead of fearing the Apocalypse, we should long for it.

*Revelation 21:3-5 (NASB) And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among the people, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, <sup>4</sup> and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."<sup>5</sup> And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."*

God wants to make you new right now! You don't have to wait until the Apocalypse to begin a relationship with God. You can dwell with God in a real relationship now. Understanding that the End of the World is an absolute certainty, it should propel us to change our lives now before it's too late. Make sure today that Jesus has saved you. When you believe and follow Jesus, the Bible says you are new. Your old way of living is being completely destroyed, and God is making you into a new person.

*2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB) Therefore if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*

### **Study Questions:**

1. Why do Christians have nothing to fear of the Apocalypse?
2. Explain a time when you were angry at God, and how did you find healing?
3. What does it mean to dwell with God for all eternity?
4. Remember and share your salvation story of when you believed in Jesus and gave your life to Him?

**Additional Study of the Apocalypse:** Revelation 16:14-16, Revelation 19:19, Zechariah 12:2-9, Zechariah 14:12, Malachi 4, Zechariah 14, Daniel 7, Isaiah 7:18-25.