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## **REVELATION 22:1-5**

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### **GETTING STARTED...**

Have you ever had a food craving? Probably at some point in your life you have had a real craving for some specific food. However, you probably have never had a craving for a food you've never tasted before. We have cravings for things we have tasted and would like more. That is the exact reason why the Bible gives us a taste of what Heaven will be like. Just a few brief descriptions of what is waiting for us to give us a taste and cause us to want more. While we would love a full description of every aspect of what it will be like, the Bible gives us enough to show us the goodness of what is waiting for us in Heaven. And the invitation is to come and see the beauty of what God has prepared for those who trust Him. Heaven is the picture of the physical place where God will be with his people, where all the effects and curses of sin have been wiped away. That is what we long for!

### **READ THE TEXT: REVELATION 22:1-5**

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORD**

1. Look back at Genesis 2-3, what does the Bible say about the tree of life? Why are Adam and Eve cut off from it?
2. Compare verse 4 of our passage to Numbers 6:22-27. How does the blessing given in numbers help us understand the picture of Heaven here?

### REFLECTING ON THE SERMON

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

### APPLYING THE POINT

5. How do we put this into practice?

*Agassiz* Do you currently live in your "forever home"? What is it about your home that makes you label it that way? Using our text (and larger context of Revelation 21-22), describe your *true* "forever home" ... your *heavenly home*. What makes you desire it? How can you incorporate these concepts into your commitment to share the gospel with others?

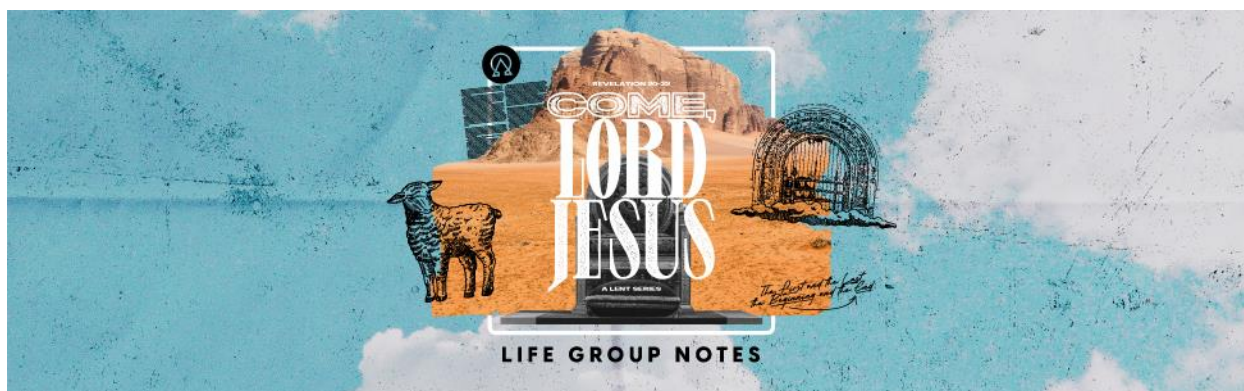
*Chilliwack* Have you considered that culture is your calling now and forever? While condemning, critiquing, copying, and consuming culture are all appropriate responses for Christians at times, none of them is an appropriate ongoing posture. Discuss this Christian approach to culture: *We should concentrate on creating and cultivating culture as we want it to be; creators and cultivators of cultural good now and for-ever.*

*Harrison & Lake Errock* How have you experienced Christ being about restoration in your life? How has he transformed your brokenness to beauty? How can that restoration help you yearn for the even more glorious restoration of life in heaven?

*Promontory* What is it about Heaven that excites you the most? How does seeing Heaven transform our outlook for today? How does the purpose for which we will work in Heaven help inform our work here and now?

### PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer? An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



## How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Central Life Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Life Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Life Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word, Reflecting on the Sermon, and Applying the Point.* We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

While the meaning of a text doesn't change, the way that we are called to apply it may look different from campus to campus, and even person to person. To reflect this distinction, you will see application questions from each campus in this guide. Start with the question(s) from your campus and then look at others to see if they are helpful for your group. You may be surprised how similar or different they end up being and how the diversity brings a fuller understanding to how we can apply the Word of God.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*“Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.” - Psalm 111:2*