



## NEW CREATION

When Jesus comes back to earth to bring God's Kingdom reign to fruition, He will make all things new. Everything will be good and completely beautiful again. God will be with His people and He will justly remove from the earth all of the sin, death, hell, destruction, and the evil one, and will restore the earth's brokenness to complete peace in His Kingdom of flourishing mercy and power. The place where heaven meets earth will include the garden where God used to walk with humanity, only now it will be a garden city full of people from every part of humanity. God's family from every tribe, tongue, and nation will be His Kingdom and priests, and His glory and goodness will fill and overflow from the temple – which is now God on His throne dwelling with man on earth – into every area of humanity and the earth. Those who reject God's grace and Jesus' holy good reign will receive justice in their desire to reject relationship with Him. They will be made responsible for their ungratefulness, entitlement, and separation, and be forever set apart from Him without His redemption or restoration outside the Kingdom city with the evil one in isolation, darkness, and weeping. For those who have a redeemed relationship with God through Jesus, and who have answered His call in obedience to be responsible to follow His ways in declaring the good news of His Kingdom, salvation, and caring for others – including feeding, clothing, welcoming, healing and helping the poor and oppressed in the world – they will be with Him and will be fully blessed to enjoy good, right, and beautifully abundant life together with people from every tribe, tongue, and nation forever. All relationships in God's Kingdom – between God and humanity, mankind with each other, and humanity with the earth – will flourish. Work will always be good and productive, art will be beautiful all the time, creation will be cared for with understanding and appreciation, and the glory of God will fill the earth. God will be with us – His family featuring blessed children, women, and men from every cultural and ethnic background as He promised – and we will thrive in perfectly loving God and each other, and cultivating His creation together. We will always take on the responsibility of reflecting His goodness in the reconciled heaven and earth as His Kingdom and priests. This will be better than even the very good at the beginning. It will be more than we can ask for or imagine.

– Mike Sullivan

## Scriptures

[Psalm 90:1](#); [Matthew 5:5](#); [Habakkuk 2:14](#); [Isaiah 60](#); [2 Chronicles 6:18-21](#); [Isaiah 65:17-25](#);

[Mark 16:15](#); [Matthew 25:31-46](#); [Revelation 5:9-10](#), [7:9-10](#); [21-22](#)

# Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: The Grand Story

Message: Scene VI – NEW CREATION

Speaker: Shawn Vandop

Date: November 12, 2023



## Connect (30min)

\*For *Connect* and *Prayer*, you may want to break into two groups, or groups of 3-4 people to enhance participation.

### 1. EMOTICONS 🤔 😊 😌 😞 😡 😱 😬

\*Which of the following emotions/feelings have you experienced this month, and brief reasons why?

*Laughter, Joy, Thankfulness, Sadness, Anger, Fear/Anxiety, Other*

### 2. FALL FOCUS

\*Share a highlight from your Bible reading and prayer (devotions) this week.

### 3. BLESS GOD

a. 📖 Read [Ecclesiastes 3:1-11](#).

b. Take 2min (timed) to *Bless God* with short prayers of thanksgiving and praise. *"Lord, I Bless You..."*

## Message Discussion (45min)

### 1. HEAVENLY MINDED

a. 📖 READ [Isaiah 65:17](#); [Romans 8:18-24](#); [2 Peter 3:13](#).

**When you think of Heaven and eternity what comes to mind?** Take a few minutes to share together.

b. God has laid out the final chapter of His *Grand Story*, telling us that He is going to put all things right.

How does it make you feel knowing that God will institute a New Heaven and a New Earth?

Discuss your thoughts and emotions about this promised future.

*"The fact that our heart yearns for something Earth can't supply is proof that Heaven must be our home."*

- C.S. Lewis

### 2. THE GRAND STORY – NEW CREATION

a. **Share your feedback on *Sunday's Message*.**

i. What connected with you, encouraged you, challenged you, or confused you? What did you learn?

ii. How has *The Grand Story* series impacted your faith and life?


b. 📖 READ [Revelation 21:1-8](#).

i. What does this passage teach us about God, about Heaven, and eternity?






ii. How does this passage emphasize relationships? Which details are most significant to you, and why?

iii. What is your response to the fact that Jesus will make all things NEW?

### 3. ETERNAL CITY

- a.  **READ** [Revelation 21:9-27](#)
- i. What are some of the descriptions that present Heaven (the New Jerusalem) as the Bride? Why do you think these details matter?
  - ii. What promises do you see in verses 23-26, and what are the personal implications for you, for us?
  - iii. Verse 27 makes it clear that only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will enter the new Jerusalem, and nothing unclean be permitted in there. How does this promise shape your hope and expectations for Heaven? Does this cause you to think of those in your life who are lost in their sin?
  - iv. Are you excited about the coming New Creation? What excites you about it?

### 4. HEAVENLY MINDED & EARTHLY GOOD

- a. How can we live with and live out a greater hope in Jesus, His return and Kingdom?
- > **WATCH** ( [Mark 13:32-37](#))
  - > **WITNESS** ( [Romans 10:9-15](#))
  - > **WORSHIP** ( [Acts 2:42-47](#))
  - > **WALK** ( [2 Peter 3:9-14](#))
  - > **WORK** ( [Hebrews 10:24](#))
- b. What can you do to share Jesus and participate in God's rescue mission to reach and save the lost?

### Prayer (15min)

- > Pray for those that God lays on your heart who need to come to Jesus for salvation. Share 1 or 2 people each & pray.
- > Pray for One Another

### Resources

#### Try ALPHA!

We will be running another ALPHA Course (FREE) in 2024. Wednesdays, January 17 to March 20.

Have you ever participated in ALPHA? Who in your life could really benefit by being invited and participating?

[www.mainstreetchurch.ca/alpha](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/alpha)

