

This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).



Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
- How are you living up with God?
- How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
- How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Revelation: All Things New

Revelation 21-22 & Luke 24:1-12

- **The Living Among the Dead: The Shock of Resurrection.** In Luke 24, the women go to the tomb expecting to find a corpse, but they find the stone rolled away and an empty space. The angels ask a piercing question: *"Why do you look for the living among the dead?"* Resurrection is the ultimate "apocalypse"—an unveiling of God's power over the finality of death. It signals that the "old order" of the horsemen and the beasts have been broken. In what areas of your life are you still "looking for life" in dead places—such as old grudges, past failures, or the empty promises of Babylon? How does the reality that Jesus is *not here, but risen* shift your perspective on your current struggles?
- **The New Jerusalem: God's Dwelling Place.** Revelation 21 describes a new heaven and a new earth. This is not an escape to a far-off clouds-and-harps heaven, but the descent of the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, to earth. God's dwelling is now with humanity, and God wipes every tear from their eyes. How does the promise that God is "making all things new" (not just making "new things") change how you view the brokenness of the world? Can you envision a version of your neighborhood or workplace where God's presence has removed all mourning and pain?
- **The River of Life: Healing for the Nations.** The final vision in Revelation 22 is a return to the garden, but it is now a city-garden. The River of the Water of Life flows from the throne, and the Tree of Life yields fruit every month, with leaves that are "for the healing of the nations." There is no more curse. The "light" of this city isn't a sun or moon, but the glory of God and the Lamb. We are invited to enter the darkness of our current world carrying this light within us. The leaves of the tree are for the *healing* of the nations. How can you be a "leaf" from that tree this week? Where is there division or "national" vitriol in your life that needs the healing, big-hearted love of Jesus?
- **Practice: Living the New Creation**
In the resurrection, the future has broken into the present. We are called to live as citizens of the New Jerusalem right now. This week, practice "All Things New" through these intentional acts:
 - **Audit the Gravesites:** Identify one habit, relationship, or mindset that feels "dead" or stuck in the old order. Intentionally stop looking for life there and turn toward the "Living One" through prayer and a change of direction.
 - **The Tear-Wiping Mission:** God promises to wipe away every tear. Find one person in your "In" or "Out" circles who is mourning or in pain. Offer a simple, tangible act of comfort—a listening ear, a meal, or a handwritten note.

- **Carry the Light:** Identify a "dark" situation in your community (injustice, loneliness, or conflict). Enter that space not with "beastly" power, but with the light of Christ alive in you—practicing hospitality and the generous love of the Lamb.
- **Will you enter the darkness of the world with the light of Christ alive in you, trusting that God is making all things new?**