

# Series Title: 'One Day: All things New'

## Subtitle: 'Envisioning Eternity with Jesus'

**Primary Aim:** To help us develop a Biblical perspective on God's new creation and see how such a perspective should transform us now. We will bookend the week with an intro and a conclusion that focuses our minds firmly on what it means to prepare for all that awaits us. I however that to some extent every session will do that as we spend sessions 2-5 looking at some of the big questions about eternity is good news for us using the lens of God's big story (Creation – Fall – Redemption – New Creation).

### 1. The Nature of Heaven: Glorious Hope

**Passages:** Ecclesiastes 3:11, Romans 8:18-25, Revelation 4-5, 21-22

**Blurb:** We will think about why heaven is such good news and re-envisioning what eternity will be like and what we will do when we get there. We will begin to see how God's new creation fits in with God's big story. We will seek to re-envision what eternity will be like – will we be just disembodied spirits floating around on the clouds and re-envision what we will do in the new heavens and the new earth. We will introduce the tick diagram as we begin to think through the place of the new heavens and the new earth in God's big story

### 2. Good News for the Orphan: Home with God

**Passages:** John 14:1-4, John 17:3, 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10

**Blurb:** Tracing the theme of God's presence (e.g. creation, tabernacle, temple and our hearts) throughout the whole bible story (see tick diagram). Why is it such a big deal that god will dwell amongst us, and in contrast why is the idea of Hell so upsetting? How does this glorious hope we have to be with God and his people in the new creation motivate us to live by faith in the here and now?

### 3. Good News for the Struggling: No More Pain

**Passages:** 1 Peter 1:1-12, Revelation 21:4

**Blurb:** An intensely practical session tracing the themes of trial & suffering (see tick diagram) through the big picture of God's story. What aspects of our eternal hope do Peter, and John (in Revelation), call on to encourage their readers in the present? How does this future without suffering help us to wrestle with our struggles in the present age?

### 4. Good News for the Human Heart: Transformation

**Passage:** 1 Corinthians 15, 1 Thessalonians 4, 1 John 3:1-3

**Blurb:** Eternity is good news because we will be transformed from our fragile, broken and messed up lives and bodies to be the people God intended us to be. We will consider the great hope of the resurrection and think about some specifics regarding that day when Jesus returns.

### 5. Good News for the Faithful: Treasures in Heaven

**Passages:** 1 Corinthians 3:1-15, Matthew 6:19-24, Matthew 25:14-30

**Blurb:** We will try to get our heads around the Bible's concept of heavenly rewards. In contrast to all that we have by grace these rewards are given as a result of our faithful service. We will think about the nature of these rewards: crowns (James 1:12/rev 2:10 1 Cor 9:24-25, 1 Pet 5:1-4, 2 Tim 4:6-8 & 1 Thess 2:19/Phil 4:1); authority/responsibility (the parable of the talents) and praise (1 Cor 4:1-5).

### 6. In Light of Eternity: Ready, Alert & Hopeful

**Passages:** Matthew 24:36-25:13, 31-46 & 1 Thessalonians 5

**Blurb:** To finish we focus on some specific passage which seek to ensure we are prepared for Jesus' imminent return. We will consider how Jesus' return might motivate us now and in particular with respect to the people we live, study and work with day by day.