

## “The Hope of Heaven”

August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Joshua 5:10-12

1. How often do you think about heaven? What sorts of thoughts come to mind as you think about heaven? Read Philippians 1:21-26. How does Paul feel about heaven and his current work in the ministry? Do you sometimes feel the same?
2. Pastor Jim mentioned that there are five things we can learn from heaven from Revelation 21. They are as follows: First, heaven is a place where God dwells and where we can interact with him by sight and not by faith. Second, heaven is a place of beauty, peace, joy, love and more. Third, heaven is a place of renewal. Fourth, heaven is a place where relationships continue and expand. Fifth, heaven is a place of reward and restoration.

Considering these five things. Carefully read Revelation 21 with your group and answer the following questions:

- What are some preconceived notions of heaven that you’ve had and how have they changed since listening to this sermon?
  - When was the last time you really sensed God’s presence with you?
  - How has God’s presence significantly impacted you?
  - Think of the most beautiful place you’ve ever visited. How will those places be even more spectacular in heaven?
  - Pastor Jim mentioned that we will be able to create, design, and work in heaven. How will work differ in heaven than from earth?
  - Heaven is a place where God will also make up to us the things we have suffered in this life. What are some things that you are personally looking forward to God restoring and making up to you?
  - Of the five things we learned from heaven, which one is especially significant to you?
3. Pastor Jim mentioned that although heaven is not here in its fullness, we celebrate God’s salvation in hope. How have you begun to receive some of the blessings of heaven now? Where do you see God actively working in your life and in the lives of your family?
  4. Take time to pray with your group. Rejoice in the fact that heaven is on its way and that we have an incredible hope in our salvation through Jesus Christ!