

WEEKLY AFFIRMATION:

I AM PART OF THE BEAUTIFUL BRIDE OF CHRIST!

FOR CHILDREN:

Have you attended a sporting event or concert in a stadium? Can you remember what it was like to hear all the crowd cheering at once? What is the largest waterfall you've seen in person? Have you heard the loud rushing of water over rapids in a river, or big waves crashing on a beach? Did you know that worship in God's New Creation will be that loud? Read Revelation 19:6-8. The visions God shows John are meant to encourage Christians by showing us that Jesus has been and will be victorious over evil! If we continue to trust and follow Him, we will be too! And that is something worth some loud praise, even today!

FOR THE MATURE CHRISTIAN:

Up to what is chapter 21 in the book of Revelation either Jesus has spoken, or God has spoken through angel intermediaries. Now, God Himself speaks directly from His throne! Read Revelation 21:1-8 a few times identifying as many truths/promises that you can. Which of those offers you the most hope right now? Prayerfully consider why that may be. What difference should it make in how we live now to know that God's ultimate purpose is to renew all things?

Some may wonder if the fall into sin could somehow repeat itself in the new creation. But notice in 21:1 there is no longer any sea. In 4:6 there had been a sea of glass before God's throne. The sea imagery throughout the Old Testament represented sin, chaos, danger - ultimately a separation between the Holy God and sinful humanity. But in the new creation the sea is gone for good. Find a moment this week to sit in worshipful silence and both contemplate and thank God for these wonderful promises!

FEBRUARY 2025 GROWTH GOALS

- Read the Book of Revelation.
- Memorize one of the weekly memory verses.
- Watch the Bible Project videos on the Book of Revelation (available on the website).
- Invite at least one person to Sunday Assembly.

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE:

“Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life, and may enter the city by the gates.”

Revelation 22:14



FOR THE GROWING CHRISTIAN:

Have you noticed silence used for dramatic effect in a climatic scene in a movie or television show? (*use the QR code to see an example from a scene in Star Wars*). Bible scholar, N.T. Wright, notes, “Such moments remind us, in our noise-soaked world, that silence can be a profound, still, deep experience in which one can sense aspects of reality which are normally drowned out by chatter and babble.”

Read Revelation 8:1-5 to experience such a moment. The opening of the seven seals has led up to the final judgment. The silence in John's vision helps both John and us as the readers realize that something significant has happened: God has prophesied that He will, once and for all, judge and clear away sin! That is a promise that should impact our perspective of trials and troubles in this world. And it is a truth that is best contemplated in worshipful silence.

Try taking a moment this week to sit in pure silence, in awe of what God has done in history, and in anticipation of what He will do in the glorious future!