

# AFTERLIFE

## Part Two: Heaven On Earth

When you think of heaven, what comes to mind? Angels floating on clouds playing harps? Our culture has given us a view of heaven that seems so distant, ethereal and unappealing. Maybe we were never meant to float up to heaven when we die and instead heaven is coming for us?

### Scripture: Philippians 3:8-21 ESV

**Bottom Line:** God's people aren't ultimately waiting to go to heaven but are welcoming heaven to come to earth.

### Discussion Questions

1. What are some of the images that come to mind when you think about heaven? Where do you think your primary perception of heaven has come from?
2. Does it challenge your mindset to hear that our permanent destination as God's people is not heaven, but a renewed earth? In what ways does that change how you think about the afterlife?
3. Read Philippians 3:8-11. What does Paul consider to be of most value? What is he willing to do to make sure he experiences that reality? Do you think that you would be willing to suffer like Christ to attain the resurrection of the dead? What do you think that means? Why do you think Paul thinks that is worthwhile?
4. Read Philippians 3:20-21. Our citizenship is in heaven, but we are to colonize earth with heaven's values. In what ways can you live this out in your daily life?

### Moving Forward

Share one or two very specific ways that you can bring heaven to the people around you this week? Write them down and watch for how these differences in your life make an impact in your week. Be prepared to share the results with the group next week!