

Who Art in Heaven

Acrostic & Scriptures

So what is heaven like? When we pray this phrase, what does it mean that God is in heaven?

Here is an activity to get your family thinking about heaven as God's home.

- As a family, read the Scripture cards below together (kids who are readers can share in this, too). Then brainstorm together to complete the Acrostic for the word HEAVEN and share the joy of knowing that we have been given the gift of living forever with God.
- God is not confined to our earth or our universe. God is the maker of the world and everything in it, and is the Lord of heaven and earth. And while God is free to be "God with us," is a God who loves and cares deeply for us, and who's grace is given freely to us, God does not belong to the order of created beings and things. Although God is certainly everywhere, God is said to exist and live "in heaven."

Acrostic

As you think about heaven, write words/phrases that begin with each letter. Example: H = Happy

H

E

A

V

E

N

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"Wolf and lamb will graze the same meadow, lion and ox eat straw from the same trough, but snakes - they'll get a diet of dirt! Neither animal nor human will hurt or kill anywhere on my Holy Mountain," says God.

Isaiah 65:25



Some skeptic is sure to ask, "Show me how resurrection works. Give me a diagram; draw me a picture. What does this 'resurrection body' look like?" If you look at this question closely, you realize how absurd it is. There are no diagrams for this kind of thing.

We do have a parallel experience in gardening. You plant a "dead" seed; soon there is a flourishing plant. There is no visual likeness between seed and plant. You could never guess what a tomato would look like by looking at a tomato seed. What we plant in the soil and what grows out of it don't look anything alike.

The dead body that we bury in the ground and the resurrection body that comes from it will be dramatically different. You will notice that the variety of bodies is stunning. Just as there are different kinds of seeds, there are different kinds of bodies - humans, animals, birds, fish - each unprecedented in its form. You get a hint at the diversity of resurrection glory by looking at the diversity of bodies not only on earth but in the skies - sun, moon, stars - all these varieties of beauty and brightness. And we're only looking at pre-resurrection "seeds" - who can imagine what the resurrection "plants" will be like!

1 Corinthians 15:35-41

But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"

1 Corinthians 2:9

"There is plenty of room for you in my Father's home. If that weren't so, would I have told you that I'm on my way to get a room ready for you? And if I'm on my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live."

John 14:2-3

Blind eyes will be opened, deaf ears unstopped, lame men and women will leap like deer, the voiceless break into song. Springs of water will burst out in the wilderness, streams flow in the desert.

Isaiah 35:5-6

I heard a voice thunder from the Throne: "Look! Look! God has moved into the neighborhood, making his home with men and women! They're his people, he's their God. He'll wipe every tear from their eyes. Death is gone for good - tears gone, crying gone, pain gone - all the first order of things gone."

Revelation 21:3-4

They'll build houses and move in. They'll plant fields and eat what they grow. No more building a house that some outsider takes over, No more planting fields that some enemy confiscates, For my people will be as long-lived as trees, my chosen ones will have satisfaction in their work. They won't work and have nothing come of it, they won't have children snatched out from under them. For they themselves are plantings blessed by God, with their children and grandchildren likewise God-blessed.

Isaiah 65:21-23