

## Home Groups | Week 10 [11.13.16] True North | Eternity | Revelation 21

### Icebreaker:

What is the most beautiful place in the world to you? When you think of being in that place, how does it make you feel?

1. When you see that the topic of this week is eternity, what is your first reaction?
2. Why is it important to see things from an eternal perspective? What practices can you engage in to keep an eternal perspective?
3. Almost all of us have sat with someone near the end of his/her life or gone to a funeral. How did you feel when sitting with someone who was near the end or when at their funeral? How does it make you think and feel about your own mortality and eternity?
4. In Revelation 21:14, John says the 12 apostles' names are on the 12 pillars/foundations. This shows that what the 12 apostles did mattered for eternity. What can you do now that will matter for eternity?
5. What, if anything, hinders you from believing in life after death?
6. In this series, True North, what is one thing that has been the most helpful to you? Our topics have been: God part 1, God part 2, humanity, salvation, identity in Christ, sacraments, bible, church, stewardship, and eternity.

### Last Week's Homework:

Last week we asked: What "small" thing (like the widow's two small coins) of yours could God turn into something great if you gave it to God? Would it be money, time, or talent? Share with your group what you came up with.

### Prayer:

- > Prayers of healing for Kristyn Looney and Mona Ruby.
- > Prayers for Etzer Thomas, the Foundation Momprince, and the people of Haiti.

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## Leader's Notes

### Reminders for your group:

- > We are done with this round of Home Groups! Be looking for an email from us asking for some information from you. Our next Home Group session begins the week of January 15!
- > Christmas is coming! There are many opportunities for you and your Home Group to get involved including Operation Christmas Child and Shepherd Totes. More information at [zpc.org](http://zpc.org)

### Leader's Notes:

Life in our fallen world is often very difficult. What hope do we have that things will get better? Things may not get better on this side, but if an eternal life with God is real then our future is wonderful. One of the joys of being a follower of Jesus is the hope of heaven. That hope of eternity helps us persevere through the struggle today. That hope also helps us to get through the illness and death of loved ones – the hope that they too will live for eternity by God's grace. Finally, an eternal perspective helps us to function better every day in the here and now.

**[Question 1]** Eternity can be an interesting topic, one which raises more questions than answers. Help your group share their thoughts openly and honestly without going down a trail with other questions that are too far off topic.

**[Question 2]** Often times when we see things from an eternal perspective, we can better deal with highs and lows. With a view of history and a view of eternity, we can see that bad things will get better and wonderful things will even be overshadowed by being with God in heaven. Practices might include keeping a good attitude, thinking about what you will be remembered for, giving generously to those in need, and giving thanks and praise to God – knowing God has a future planned for you through His grace.

**[Question 3]** You might discuss a specific time when someone close to you was dying and then passed away. Help your group members discuss those feelings briefly. Being at a funeral helps you evaluate your own life, your legacy, and what life means to you. You don't have to get stuck on this question or linger too long on sad stories. Feel free to move on to the next question when you are ready.

**[Question 4]** Each of us has been designed to live a life to serve God – as God has given us his grace. See Ephesians 2:10. Some answers might be leaving a legacy through relationships with your children, grandchildren, or extended family and friends. We might also make and eternal impact by showing others the grace of God by our words, love, and actions. Your group might share examples of serving others who are in need while extending God's grace.

**[Question 5]** This question might lead to your group expressing some doubts. Doubts are ok to have and to discuss. We might wonder if life just ends here on earth, or be struck by the finality of death. You might point your group back to the hope of heaven in John 14:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10, or even review Revelation 21.

**[Question 6]** It may be difficult to remember what we discussed 8 or 9 weeks ago – it's hard for the pastors to remember too! On the other hand, there may be one or two messages that have really stuck with your group and helped them. Look for those resonating messages to remember.

**[Homework]** – Ask group members share what they came up with as far as a time, talent, or treasure – even a small one – they could dedicate to God.