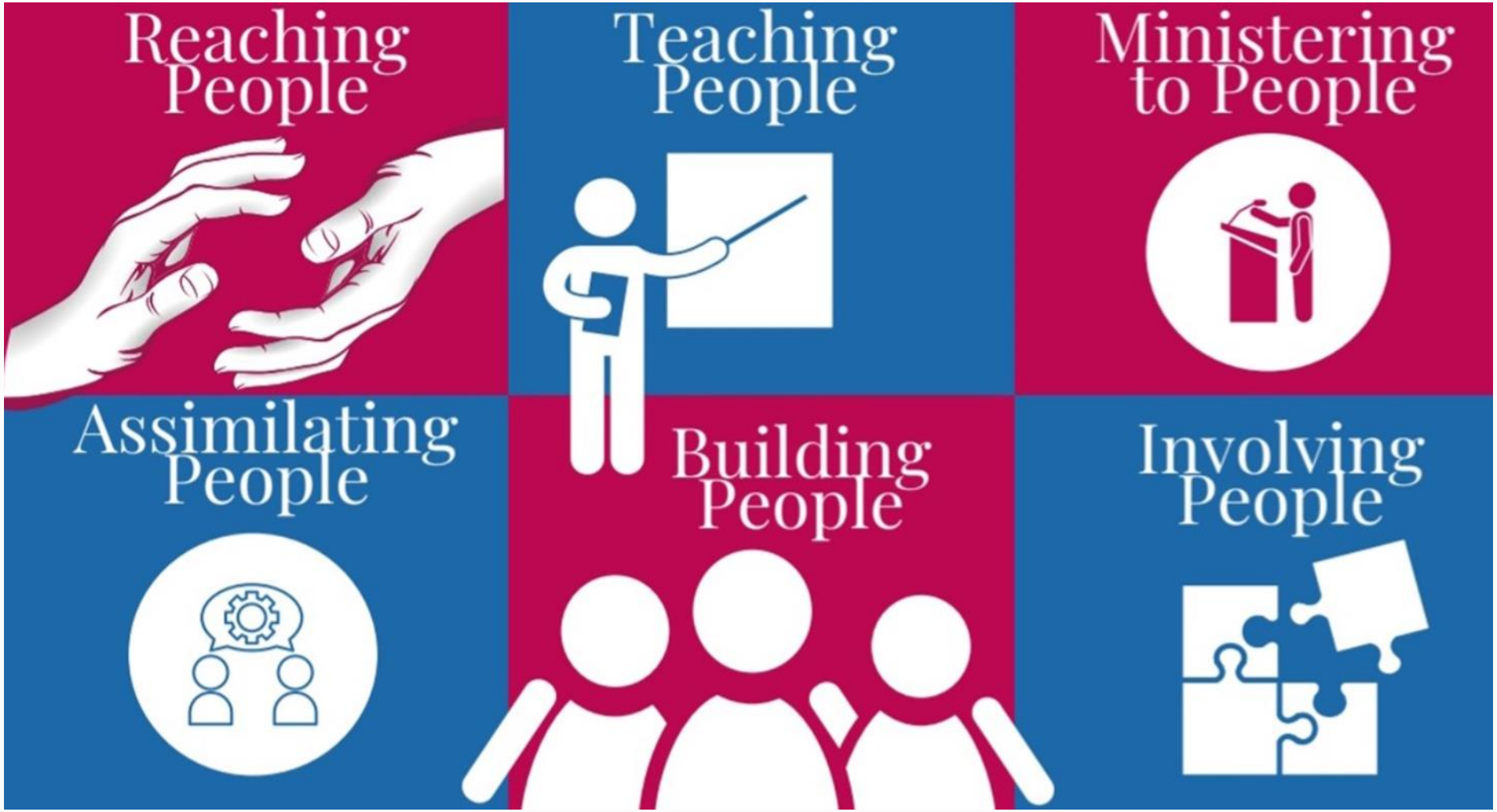


Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C Sunday School

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026

I See a New Jerusalem

Sunday School Core Values



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Sunday School Responsive Reading

Superintendent/Teacher: Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. **Psalm 133:1**

School/Class: But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. **Hebrews 13:16**

Superintendent/Teacher: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. **2 Timothy 3:16**

School/Class: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. **Psalm 119:105**

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Sunday School Responsive Reading

Superintendent/Teacher: Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. **Philippians 2:4**

School/Class: He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor. **Proverbs 22:9**

Superintendent/Teacher: Therefore he says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive and gave gifts to men.” **Ephesians 4:8**

School/Class: As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **1 Peter 4:10**

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Sunday School Responsive Reading

Superintendent/Teacher: For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:12**

School/Class: For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function. **Romans 12:4**

Superintendent/Teacher: By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. **John 13:35**

School/Class: For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **Gal. 5:13**

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Sunday School Responsive Reading

ALL:

But grow in the grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

- **Bible Basis**: Revelation 21:9-14, 22-27
- **Bible Truth**: God has provided a new place for believers that is filled with His light and glory.
- **Memory Verse**: "And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the Light thereof" (Revelation 21:22-23)

Lesson Aim

EXPLORE	IMAGINE	CELEBRATE
The possibility of living in a new place, even in another dimension of life.	The richness and serenity of living in the New Jerusalem.	God's provision of a new place for believers at the end of all things temporal and throughout eternity.

Background Scriptures: Genesis 1:28-2:3; Revelation 21:9-27

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

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Revelation 21:9-14, 22-27 KJV

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

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Revelation 21:9-14, 22-27 KJV

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

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LIGHT ON THE WORD

Rome. Rome was a society that practiced cultic worship of the emperor. They believed that this loyalty to the emperor assured Roman prosperity. The Christian proclamation that Jesus is Lord was viewed as a threat to Roman society and led to the persecution of Christians as a result of the Great Fire of Rome in AD 64. Rome was becoming more intolerant of other religions, leading to rebellion against Rome in Jerusalem.

The Apostle John was exiled to the island of Patmos as punishment for his outspoken beliefs about Christ that were contrary to the Roman empire. It is during his exile on Patmos that John received his revelation.

LIFE NEED FOR TODAY'S LESSON:

AIM: Students will agree that "home" is the best place to be.

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INTRODUCTION

A Picture of Perfection

The Bride of Christ is revealed as the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, radiant with God's glory and prepared like a picture-perfect bride for her husband. The city shines like a precious jewel, with twelve gates guarded by twelve angels to ensure its preservation. There is no temple, because God and the Lamb are its temple – His presence fills everything. The city needs no sun or moon; God's glory and the Lamb's light illuminate it.

Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life may enter, and nothing impure is allowed. This vision shows the beauty, holiness, and eternal security of life with God.

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BIBLE LEARNING

AIM: We will agree that God is always providing ways to give us peace and hope.

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I. THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Revelation 21:9-14

One of the most interesting facts about the city is that it is built on twelve foundations, each one bearing the name of one of the twelve apostles, the first bearers of the Gospel. This is because only through the Gospel can one become a citizen of this heavenly city. Revelation identifies the heavenly city as a place free from tears and heartaches, and ultimately free from sin. In the heavenly city, we can experience God's presence and glory without constraints. This can happen only through our belief in the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

I. THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Revelation 21:9-14

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, say- ing, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

The pouring out of the last plagues from these vials signifies the final series of God's judgment, the conclusion of His wrath. After these, John told us of the fall of Babylon (Revelation 17-18), the triumph of the heavenly army led by Christ (Revelation 19), the binding, incarceration, and final judgment of Satan (Revelation 20), and then the passing away (the transformation) of the first Heaven and earth, which were replaced by a new Heaven and earth (Revelation 21:1). After this renewal, John beholds the Holy City, the New Jerusalem (v. 2).

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

I. THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Revelation 21:9-14

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, say- ing, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

In verse 9, the angel invites John to come, proposing to show him the Lamb's wife, the bride (Gk. *numphe*, **NOOM-fay**, a betrothed or newly married young woman). The bride" usually in the New Testament refers to the Church, showing the close relationship between the Church and Christ, the bridegroom. Marriage imagery is used in the Old Testament to show a similar relationship between God and Israel; the word "bride" is one of the most important words used to refer to the Church. It normally signifies the relationship between Christ and the Church; here, however, we will see that the "bride" is the Holy City of the New Jerusalem.

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

I. THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

Revelation 21:9-14

This verse runs parallel with verse 2, where John described this city using a personifying marital analogy, saying the city was "prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." This city is called "the bride" and "the Lamb's wife" (21:2, 9), just as the Church is also referred to as the Lamb's wife in Revelation 19:7. The fact that the same word is used for both the Church and the city points to a significant likeness. The earthly Jerusalem has been called to be the City of God (Psalm 48:1-2), the Holy City (Isaiah 52:1; Matthew 4:5), and the city where God has chosen to put His Name (2 Chronicles 6:6). Today it is the most famous holy city in the world and aptly called the "spiritual capital of the world.“ The earthly Jerusalem is a prefiguration of the New Jerusalem from Heaven.

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

I. THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Revelation 21:9-14

11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; 12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

The Holy Jerusalem is a city out of Heaven. It is not Heaven, but it possesses the features of Heaven. It is the dwelling place of the resurrected bodies of the Church (the redeemed bride), God, and Christ (Revelation 21:3 , 22:3). In the Upper Room, Jesus promised to go prepare a place for His followers (John 14:2-3). This city is undoubtedly the promised prepared Place for the redeemed bride. Our bodies are our temporary habitations for our spirits and souls (2 Corinthians 5:1-8). Our earthly homes are also temporary, but we have a final dwelling place: the Holy City, a wonderful place Jesus has prepared for us in Heaven.

Lesson 11 November 15, 2026
I See a New Jerusalem

I. THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Revelation 21:9-14

11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; 12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

When God called Abraham to leave his country, God promised him he would possess a foreign country. Although he never saw this promise fulfilled, in Hebrews 11:10 the author infers that Abraham had a preview of the heavenly city, which sustained his faith. The heavenly city has been the destination of all those who live lives of faith.

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LIGHT ON THE WORD

John's Vision of Heaven

John's vision of Heaven is told from two points of view: from Heaven and from Earth. Revelation 21:9 tells the narrative from the earthly viewpoint. Here John is approached by one of the seven angels who had the seven vials (or bowls) full of the seven last plagues. We are first introduced to these angels in Revelation 15, where one of the four beasts in Heaven gave them the seven golden vials full of the seven last plagues, which are also called the wrath of God.

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II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Revelation 21:22-27

Our passage begins with the observation that the heavenly city has no temple. Initially, this seems odd. One would assume that the city that God created where He would dwell forever with humanity would have a temple dedicated for worship. However, the heavenly city is the place where God's presence is continually experienced fully and equally; no place in the Holy City will be more sacred or holy than any other. When we experience God's presence on earth, worship flows naturally. The only thing restricting this experience wherever we are is our own tendency to get distracted by earthly concerns.

If we decide to seek out opportunities to focus on God and His goodness in our lives, we can gradually transform worship from a weekly experience to a daily lifestyle.

II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

Revelation 21:22-27

John tells us here that the city lacks a temple. What is translated as "temple" here is the Greek word *naos* (**nah-OS**). This refers to the inner sanctuary where only the priest could lawfully enter, and it is contrasted with *hieron* (**heer-ON**), which also means temple, but denotes the entire temple complex with all its courts and auxiliary buildings. Naos, the inner sanctuary or Holy of Holies, is the location of the Ark of the Covenant in the Mosaic tabernacle and Solomon's Temple. This is the place where God manifested His presence. This city does not need a temple because God's manifest presence would be experienced by all. There would be no need for a house, because the entire new creation would be His household.

II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Revelation 21:22-27

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

The Lord and the Lamb would be eternally worshiped in the heavenly city.

There would be no need for rituals or sacrifices. It will be a place where

everyone will experience the unmediated presence of God.

II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Revelation 21:22-27

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. 24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

John further tells us that the city has no need of the natural light of the sun and moon. While these two agents of light are the main illuminators of planet Earth, they can also cause some discomfort to the people below. God's desire to shield His people from the scorching effects of the light of the sun and moon is expressed by David: "the sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul" (Psalm 121:6-7). This desire is ultimately fulfilled in the New Jerusalem.

II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Revelation 21:22-27

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. 24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

The sun's light and heat will not be needed in the Holy City. In the New Jerusalem, the glory of God and the Lamb is declared here to be greater and more enduring and blissful than sunlight and moonlight. Sun and moon are features of the Heaven and earth that will pass away (Revelation 21:1). The Greek word translated "glory" is *doxa* (**DOX-ah**), used here to denote the supernatural brightness or splendor emanating from God; this is the brightness manifested in Christ when He was transfigured (Matthew 17:1-2). This glory will illuminate the city, and cause it to shine on the entire face of the earth; the saved nations shall "walk in the light of it." The nations will not need any light from heavenly bodies but only light from one source – God and the Lamb.

II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Revelation 21:22-27

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. 26 And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it.

The promise (actually a prophecy) in Isaiah 60:11 continues here with the description of the city's gates. Open gates indicate admittance and readiness; here they mean constant coming and going, with no need to close.

The sun and moon will no longer impose a set time to shut the gates of the Holy City. Thus, the absence of these heavenly bodies means the absence of day and night. Here again is a reference to the nations, presumably through the agency of kings (v. 24), bringing glory and honor to the Holy City. The word "glory" here is the same word used to refer to God in vv. 23-24. Glory and honor here are associated with the nations, or the various peoples who are not from the tribes of Israel. What is most precious and esteemed from the peoples of the earth is now being brought into the holy city to join with the glory of God.

II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Revelation 21:22-27

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

By designation, the New Jerusalem is called "the Holy City" and in accordance to this name, there is a divine restriction against anything that defiles or causes abomination and lies. The Greek word translated "defileth," *koinoo* (**koy-NO-o**), means to render unholy, to make common, pollute, or make unclean. This refers to things and practices that would defile the city by rendering it common or ordinary. The Holy City assumes the status of the Holy of Holies; it is a place of great beauty, lavishly built with precious stones, so nothing unclean would enter it. The word translated "abomination" is *bdelugma* (**DEL-oog-mah**), and it denotes an object of disgust or an idolatrous object. This term is used for idols. God and the Lord Jesus are the only objects of worship in the Holy City. No idol will be there. In Ezekiel's vision, he was made to see "where the idol that provokes to jealousy stood" at the entrance of the Temple's inner court facing the north (Ezekiel 8:3, NIV). The image of the beast is also called "the abomination that causes desolation." There will be no abomination in the Holy City.

II. LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

Revelation 21:22-27

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

The word translated "lie" is *pseudos* (**SYOO-dos**), simply meaning falsehood or something not true. Jesus is the Truth; anything contrary to Him is a lie and will not enter the Holy City. Any creature or act that is described as something that "defileth" or an "abomination" or a "lie" is forbidden entry into the Holy City. This divine restriction brings about an ultimate realization of a city devoid of evil. It is an end times fulfillment of God's prescribed course of conduct for human life. This prescribed course, prophesied in Isaiah 35:8, is laid down in its entirety in the faith we profess as Christians and will be perfectly realized in the Holy City.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

The Temple Destroyed

Jesus foretold the destruction of the Temple in Matthew 24:2. The Jewish historian Josephus provides us with a firsthand account of what happened. In response to the Jews revolt, Rome laid siege to the city and captured the Fortress of Antonia just north of the Temple Mount in AD 70. Shortly thereafter they attacked the Temple and set fire to the gates. The Jews lost hope, and soon Jerusalem was in flames. After this time of civil unrest, persecution, and loss, John the apostle received a revelation from God. This revelation is of God being ultimately triumphant over the enemies of His people, and of the New Jerusalem, which will make the other one pale in comparison.

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BIBLE APPLICATION

AIM: We will agree that John gives us an opportunity to know who cannot enter into the New Jerusalem, the Holy City.

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BIBLE APPLICATION

The heavenly city had 12 gates that were always open. This image serves as a reminder of God's desire for everyone to come into His presence and have a relationship with Him. As we strive to build our lives on a solid foundation, let us not forget to reach out to someone else and let them know that God is welcoming them to also come into His presence with open arms.

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STUDENT RESPONSES

AIM: We will have hope that God has already prepared a beautiful place for His people to live with Him for eternity.

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STUDENT RESPONSES

It is very easy for us to lose hope when our faith is tested or shaken. How does belief in the coming heavenly city help to strengthen our faith?

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Prayer

O Lord,

How excellent is Your Name in all the universe! We marvel at the beauty of the New Jerusalem. Thank You for salvation that assures us we will live with you in the New Jerusalem!

In the name of Jesus we pray,

Amen!

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Next Sunday
November 22, 2026

Lesson 12
Living Waters
Revelation 22:1-7