

Scripture

Revelation 7:13-17 NRSV

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Discussion

1. What jumped out at you about the Scripture reading?
2. What has been your favorite adventure scene in the Pilgrim's Progress?
3. How much do you think about heaven?
4. What do you think heaven will be like? Do you think it will be relaxing? Will there be new adventures and tasks for us?
5. Do you take the images of heaven in Revelation with harps, wings, pearly gates and golden streets more literally or symbolically? What is God trying to tell us about heaven?
6. There's a country song that says, "everybody wants to go to heaven but nobody wants to die". What feelings did you have when Christian and Hopeful saw that the River of Death that encircled the Celestial City had no bridges or boats to cross?
7. What scares you most about death?
8. What will you miss most about life on earth when your time comes? What are you glad will be no more after you die and enter your Master's joy?
9. How can we prepare to die well?
10. How does the hope of heaven help you now in the present?
11. What will be the first question you ask or thing you say when you get to heaven?
12. In what way is heaven God's ultimate healing?