

Taking it Home:

- Have you been challenged to look at your spiritual life in a new way, looking at more than just this earthly existence but with more of an eternal perspective? (Cf. Phil. 3:19-21; Colossians 3:1-2).
- This week pray for your neighbors (whether you know them or not) and ask God for an opportunity to share the Gospel with them. This is probably way outside your comfort zone, but God will provide a way and wisdom for you.
- If you were an ambassador for the United States what would you have to do to be a great ambassador for our nation? Grade yourself: are you a poor, good or great ambassador for the Kingdom of God? What will you need to do to become a great ambassador for Christ?

Reading Resources:

- David Platt, *Radical, Taking Back Your Faith from the American dream*, Multnomah books
- Jason Mandryk, *Operation World, Biblica books*

The Big Picture
Genesis 1; Revelation 20-22

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The Big Picture

How clearly do you see life's big picture?

I. The Bible's _____ and _____ helps us to see life's big picture.

A. We have been uniquely created _____.
Genesis 1-2

B. One day we will _____!
Revelation 21-22

II. The Bible's _____ helps us to see life's main thing.

A. Life's main thing is _____.

1. An evil villain has _____ the great adventure.
Genesis 3 & Revelation 20

2. God is on a mission _____.
Galatians 4:4-5

B. God's main method is _____.

1. We are God's _____.
John 20:21

2. We are God's _____.
II Corinthians 5:18-20

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit www.bethelc.com.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of July 31, 2011

Genesis 1; Revelation 20-22

Quick Review: – From the beginning of creation in Genesis chapter 1 until the end of the universe as we know it in Revelation 21 & 22, when God creates a “*new heaven and a new earth*,” God has a master plan, a “Big Picture” that He has communicated with mankind through His Word. Within God’s “Big Picture” is mankind, whom He has ordained to be His ambassadors, His workers to be used to fulfill His kingdom for His glory.

My Story:

- Have you ever been out in the middle of nowhere at night and gazed into the night sky and pondered and marveled at the majesty of God’s creation? There are literally billions of stars in the sky, all created by God. Have you ever stopped and wondered why God created the universe the way He did? Have you ever wondered what your purpose is in the “Big Picture” of life on earth? When you think about the enormity of the universe man is pretty small; why would God want to have a relationship with you? Share your thoughts.
- How has God shared His “Big Picture” with mankind? Can we know what God is like and what He wants us to know about Him? How can we know? Share your thoughts.

Growing Deeper:

- Through the hustle, bustle and busyness of everyday life sometimes it is difficult for individuals to stop and see the “Big Picture” of their significance. Humans are so extremely small in comparison with the size of the earth, our galaxy and our humongous universe. Do you really matter to God? **READ and interpret the following Scriptures – Psalm 139:15-16; Isa. 44:2; 49:5; Jeremiah 1:5; Matt. 6:26; Matt. 10:30-32; John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9; Ephesians 1:4-5; 1 Peter 1:3-5.**
- Pastor Daryl said “**God is on a Mission**” What is God’s Mission? Are you a part of God’s Mission? How do you know? (Cf. Acts 4:12; Gal. 4:4; Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7)
- God’s main method of rescuing mankind is using His people as His messengers for Jesus Christ. What does that mean? **READ and interpret the Scriptures: Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; John 20:21; Romans 10:17; 2 Timothy 4:1-2.**
- What is an ambassador and what do they do? READ 2 Corinthians 5:17-20. What is an ambassador for Jesus Christ? Is every believer an ambassador for Christ or only some believers? How well do you do your job as an ambassador for the kingdom of God?
- Read Revelation chapters 21 & 22. We know the beginning (Genesis) and we know the end (Revelation). We have the ability to personally know God’s “Big Picture” of what the new heaven and new earth will be like in the future. Even though we only live in a very small fragment of earth, what impact are you personally making for the kingdom of God in your realm of influence? Are you living life with a myopic view of you, yourself, & I, or do you clearly see life’s “Big Picture” that God has for you to make an eternal impact in the lives of others wherever you live?