

THE CHURCH.

INWARD. OUTWARD. UPWARD. BACKWARD.

Upward– The Bride in Heaven (Rev 19:1-9, 2Cor 11:2-3, Eph 5:25-27, Isa 65:17)
September 15, 2024

Do you love the Church?

The Church is Jesus' Bride

After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! **Revelation 19:1 NKJV**

For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."
Revelation 19:2 NKJV

Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" **Revelation 19:3 NKJV**

And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!" **Revelation 19:4 NKJV**

Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!" **Revelation 19:5 NKJV**

And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! **Revelation 19:6 NKJV**

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” **Revelation 19:7 NKJV**

And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. **Revelation 19:8 NKJV**

Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’
“ And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.” **Revelation 19:9 NKJV**

Inward
Outward
Upward
Backward

What about my marriage?

Proposal
Engagement
Wedding
Marriage

Jesus “proposes” when people hear the Gospel

For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. **1 Corinthians 2:2 NKJV**

...the gospel...which also you received... **1 Corinthians 15:1 NKJV**

For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. **2 Corinthians 11:2 NKJV**

We get “engaged” to Jesus when we accept Him

John 14:1-6, Romans 11:25

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, **Ephesians 5:25 NKJV**

that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, **Ephesians 5:26 NKJV**

that He might be present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. **Ephesians 5:27 NKJV**

Jesus & His Bride, the Church, will have a “wedding”

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” **Revelation 19:7 NKJV**

And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. **Revelation 19:8 NKJV**

Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’
“ And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.” **Revelations 19:9 NKJV**

Jesus & the Church will live as “Husband & Wife”

Revelation 21:1-12

For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. **Isaiah 65:17 NKJV**

Are you preparing for Me, or cheating on Me?

Would you “marry” Me?

This week’s [OWNit365 Whole Bible Plan:](#)

September 16 - Isa 55-57 & Acts 14

September 17 - Isa 58-59 & Acts 15

September 18 - Isa 60-61 & Acts 16

September 19 - Isa 62-63 & Acts 17

September 20 - Isa 64-65 & Acts 18

September 21 - Isa 66-Jer 1 & Acts 19

September 22 - Reflection & Prayer

September 15

VISITGRACECHURCH.COM/KIDS



In this series, we learn that God made the world we live in. He made land, sky, sea and plants!

Memory Verse: "God made the World" Genesis 1:1 (Adapted for Toddlers)

Heart of the Lesson: God Made the Sky

Parent Connect: Watch a sunrise or a sunset together as a family or drive out of town away from the city lights and go stargazing. talk with your toddler about how God made the sky and everything in it (sun, moon, stars, etc).



This series will go into the different ways different people decided to listen to God and to follow His plan for them!

Memory Verse: "The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, 'Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!'" Judges 6:12

Heart of the Lesson: Ruth and Boaz | Ruth 1-4

Parent Connect: Today we learned about Ruth and Naomi and how Ruth was a good friend. Talk to your kids about what makes a good friend, things like; being kind, taking turns, sharing toys. Draw with your kid on a piece of paper and make a picture to share with their friend. Pray and thank God together for friends!



The church needs to focus inward, outward, upward, and backward. In this series we'll use the popular game 'Dance Dance Revolution' to help us understand these concepts.

Memory Verse: The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. 1 John 2:6

Heart of the Lesson: Looking Upward Means Preparing to Live in Heaven – John 14:1-3

Parent Connect: Today we learned that we need to be looking upward as we anticipate eternity in Heaven. We talked about how everything we do here on earth is important. Discuss with your kid, what is one thing that he/she wants to make sure to do in their time here on earth that will impact their time in heaven for eternity? Share with your kid one of your eternity focused goals.

THE CHURCH

This month we are looking at four aspects, the “DNA” of the church. We will look inward – how we help each other grow spiritually within the church outward – sharing Jesus with the world, upward – focusing our eyes on Jesus and Heaven, and backward – going back to the promise God made for the church.

Memory Verse: “Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” Hebrews 10:24-25

Heart of the Lesson: Upward – The Church has an eternal hope in Jesus (John 14:1-6, Revelation 21:1-22:6)

Parent Connect: Heaven can be such an abstract concept to students at this age. Consider talking about Heaven over the dinner table as a family. Talk about what you think heaven will be like and look up scriptures to see what the Bible says about heaven. See if your ideas of heaven match up with what the Bible says.

THE CHURCH



The Church has a mission to build relationships with Jesus and with others. That looks like focusing on relationships IN the Church, OUT in our community, UP towards Jesus, and remembering BACK to Jesus’ promise for the Church. This series, we’re looking at how we are called to connect with our Church family, local community, and with Jesus!

Memory Verse: And because you belong to him, you too are being built together. You are being made into a house where God lives through his Spirit. (Ephesians 2:32)

Heart of the Lesson: Upward – The Church loves Jesus and shares His Good News! (Romans 5:8, 1 John 5:3, Philippians 4:6-7, & Romans 10:13-15)

Parents/Caregivers:

- How has Jesus shown His love to you?
- What can you do to spend more time in God’s Word, the Bible, this week?
- Is it easy or hard for you to talk to God in prayer? Why?
- Who is someone you can share the Good News of Jesus with this week?