



LESSON 86

3rd and 4th Grade

Principle: Sin is punished. Salvation is not complete until Jesus returns, and we are to hope for His return.

Bible Character: Satan, Jesus, and God

Scripture Reference: Revelation 20:11-15, 21:1-4



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before this weekend, read through Revelation 20:11-15, 21:1-4. As you prepare for this weekend, focus on the promises we find in Revelation. We often get caught up in the details and theology of Revelation, instead of holding on to the hope that is presented through the final chapter of God's story. In this book, God reveals the end of the world. Jesus' victory is complete, and all of God's children share a "new heaven and a new earth." (Rev. 21:1) God, in His power and holiness, defeats Satan forever. We will be sanctified, and Jesus will "wipe away every tear from [your] eyes." God will reverse the curse that sin brought into the world, and we will live in harmonious relationship with God in the new world He will create for His children. This is the eternal hope offered to all believers.

How do you live your life, holding onto this hope for eternal life with Jesus? Do you look for satisfaction in the world, or do you realize that this truth is the only way you will be fulfilled? As we look at this final chapter, spend time praying for your campers' hearts to hear the truth, respond to the Gospel truth, and be changed by God's power.

PLUG IN TIME - 5-10 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

Arrive early to check the supplies in the bin and review the lesson. Write today's principle on the whiteboard. Remember to greet all campers upon arrival; meet their parents; welcome and introduce all visitors. Create a welcoming cabin for all campers!

Explain to campers that today you will be talking about the last book of the Bible. You have walked through the whole New Testament in your cabin this year. (If your campers have been in Camp Grace for two years, they have walked through the entire Bible at this point.) Talk to your campers about this past year, and ask them what they have enjoyed. They can share their favorite lessons, skits, songs, etc. Ask them about what they have learned in Camp Grace.



BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes

As you line up, remind campers we are going to have fun as an entire Camp Grace group! We are going to live out GRACE by **Glorifying God** through worship, **Respecting All Leaders**, and **Accepting Responsibility** to listen with attentive ears, minds, and hearts – fully **Celebrating Christ** with passion! We should **Encourage Others** to do the same, by not distracting them from their worship of God.

The Bridge to Small Group

Today we will read from Revelation about the end of God's story. We will talk about Jesus' return, Satan's defeat, the end of our sinful world, and the new world God will create for all of His children.

Small Group Time - 25-30 minutes

Getting Started

If your cabin did well in Big Group, acknowledge it. If not, take a couple of minutes to talk about how they can do better next time.

What did you learn in Big Group? Why did Nurse Lovepain not like the end of the book? (Because she didn't like "happily ever after" endings since our world has lots of bad stuff happening all around.) What did Nurse Lovepain and Jetterbob learn about the story of life that God created? (It does have a "happily ever after" ending; we have a hope that Jesus will come back and defeat Satan and evil once and for all, and there will be a new place where God will live with us.)

In the past, we have talked about one role of believers in the body of Christ. Can you remember what that role is? (Confronting other believers who are in sin.) We learned about hypocrisy. What is the definition of hypocrisy? (You talk the talk but do not walk the walk; you tell others how to live, but you do not live that way.) It is important to live honestly and to glorify God, if you believe and trust in Jesus. When we see a friend in sin, we need to humbly confront them to help them recognize their sin so they can repent and God can change their heart.

Today we are going to read from Revelation, the last book of the Bible. This is exciting, because we get to see what God has planned for the future. This book of the Bible gives us hope as we see that God knows the future and is in control of the world's story. He has a plan to defeat Satan forever.

In Revelation 20:1-10, we learn that God will lock Satan up so that he will not be able to tempt people to sin. He will be in prison for 1000 years. After this time ends, Satan will be released and he will gather many people together to fight against God. Does that scare you? (Allow responses.)

It does seem scary to think about Satan gathering up people from all over the earth to fight against God. But, we do not have to be scared of this because we can place our hope in our faithful and powerful God. Revelation goes on to say that God will defeat Satan completely. He will throw Satan into a fiery, burning lake where he will live forever. Satan will never be able to tempt us again!

Let's read in Revelation [NLT] to see what happens after Satan is defeated forever.

Revelation 20:11

11 And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide.

Mighty King



The purpose is for the campers to envision what the throne of Jesus might look like.

Supplies:

Picture of king on a throne (1 per bin)

Ask them to imagine what the “great white throne” in verse 11 may look like. Have each camper share what they think the throne would look like. Next, show the picture of an earthly king on a throne.

Tie It Together



What do you think this verse is about? Who is the person sitting on this great white throne? (Allow responses.) This is a picture of our King, Jesus Christ, sitting in Heaven at the right hand of His Father. The earth and sky ran from His presence because Jesus is so powerful and holy. We cannot even imagine this! We can look at a picture of an earthly king on a throne to have an idea of what it could look like, but the throne of our King, Jesus Christ, will be more powerful, more beautiful, and more majestic than anything we can envision. What an amazing event to look forward to for those who believe and trust in Jesus as Lord!

Let's continue reading.

Revelation 20:12-15

12 I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. 13 The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. 14 Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. 15 And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.

Verse 11 told us that the “earth and sky saw his face, and ran away. There was no place for them.” What do you think this means? (Allow responses.) This means that our evil, fallen world will try to run away from God because God is holy and perfect. The evil will have no place to hide because it will be time for judgment. God will judge everyone, both the living and the dead. At the time of judgment, everyone who has chosen to believe and trust in Jesus has his or her name written in the Book of Life. All of these people can look forward to eternal life with Jesus. People who have chosen not to believe and trust in Jesus as Lord will not have their names written in the Book of Life. This means they will not be allowed into Heaven.

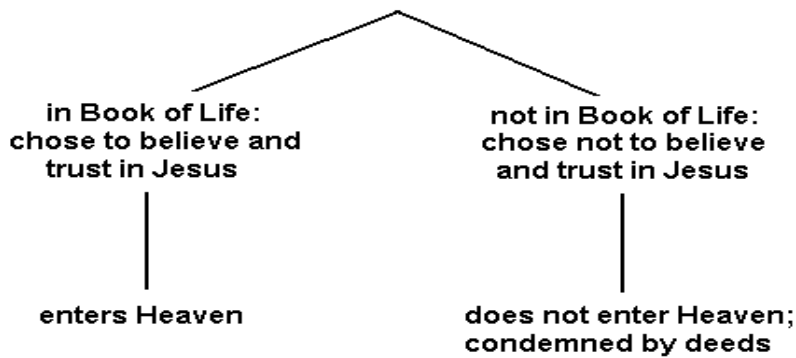
So what does this mean for us right now? How does the whole Bible explain this? What do you believe? (Allow responses.)

Teachers – if you get specific questions about judgment and the book of life, use the chart below to assist in answering questions.

Judgment

Revelation 20:11-15

Book of Life



The Gospel



The purpose is to help the campers fully understand the meaning of the Gospel.

Supplies:

White board

Markers/crayons

Book pages (cover and pages 1-9) on various brightly colored paper (1 set per camper)

Binder ring/zip tie/piece of yarn (1 per camper)

Hole punch

Ask the campers to think about God's story, the story that the Bible reveals from Genesis through Revelation. Think back to the beginning and ask the campers about each major event in the Bible. Talk through creation, the fall (sin), redemption, and the return of Jesus. You can write on the white board for each event.

Hand out the book supplies to each camper and as you talk through the Tie It Together below, have them put their books together in order, page by page. If using zip ties or yarn, don't secure them too tightly, or the pages will be hard to turn.

Tie It Together



We learned in Genesis that God created the world by speaking it into existence. He made everything perfect, including Adam and Eve, and intended for everything to be in harmonious relationship with Him. What happened in the Garden of Eden? Satan tempted Adam and Eve, and they chose to sin because they wanted to be like God. They did not understand that their life would only be good and perfect if they chose to obey God and trust that His way was best. What did their sin do to the world? Their sin resulted in separation from God for all of creation. We are sinners, just like Adam and Eve. How do you know you are a sinner? The Bible tells us we are sinners. And as sinners, we choose to disobey God and not trust that His way is best. What do we deserve for our sin? We deserve to die for our sin, but the good news is that God loves us and provided a way for us to be redeemed and restored to relationship with Him. He sent His Son, Jesus, to live on earth with us and pay the price for our sin. Jesus lived a perfect life, a life without sin, and took our sin on

Himself when He was crucified on the cross. He did not deserve to die, but He gave up His life so that we would not have to die for our sin. After His death, He rose on the third day and defeated death.

When we understand that we are sinners and the only way we can be right with God is through Jesus, we can choose to believe and trust in Him as our Savior. When we do this, our sins are forgiven and we are redeemed to God. He changes our heart so that we desire to live for Him instead of living for ourselves. God provides us with a new life! We die to our old life, and God makes us new creations.

In the book of Revelation, God shows us that He will defeat Satan forever. Everyone who believes and trusts in Jesus as Savior will live in a new earth in perfect fellowship with God. God promises us that Jesus will “wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” (Revelation 21:4) We will live happily ever after! Our home will be in heaven with Jesus forever. We can find hope in this last chapter of God’s story. We can live with the knowledge that God loves us, and wants us to live the life He originally created for us. We can hope in these promises when we believe and trust in Him.

Let’s continue reading to find out what God is preparing in Heaven.

Revelation 21:1-2

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

After the time of judgment, our sinful world disappears, and in its place will be a new world that God will create. It will be a paradise, just like the world that God first created. Can you imagine what this new world will be like? (Allow responses.) Whatever we imagine will be nothing compared to the beauty and joy that God will have for all of His children who love Him. Our wildest dreams cannot describe how wondrous God’s new world will be!

Revelation 21:3-4

3 I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

After the time of judgment, God will have a new world, a new paradise, for everyone who believes and trust in Jesus. Then God will live with His people. What will this new world be like? (Allow responses.) There will be no more death, sorrow, crying, or pain because all of these things will be gone forever. The awfulness of sin in our world will be gone, so that a new, perfect world can exist. This is the future for God’s people: a beautiful, wondrous world to glorify Him and enjoy Him forever!

Suffering No More



The purpose is to help the campers understand how all of the consequences of sin will be gone forever.

Supplies:

White paper (1 per camper)

Markers/crayons

Hand each camper a white sheet of paper. Then have them write down things in life that are hard, things that are scary, or cause them hurt or pain. Talk through the different things the campers share. Next, have the campers rip up their lists, and throw the paper away.

Tie It Together



The consequences of sin in our fallen world are great. There is much pain and hurt that we experience all of the time. Our world is full of sickness and death of family members and friends, parents getting divorced, people being mean to one another, and many other kinds of suffering. There are so many different hardships in our broken world that cause tears, sorrow, and pain. But if you believe and trust in Jesus, then you can have hope that you are His child forever. You can have hope that God will create a new world for His children to live happily ever after, free from the pains caused by our sinful world. If you choose to believe and trust in Jesus, then you will live in this new world after Jesus returns and makes everything right.

Fairytale Ending



The purpose is to help the campers see the overall picture of God's story.

Supplies:

Books from "The Gospel" activity (1 per camper)

Help campers finish putting their books together and read through them (if possible, choose a volunteer to read each page). Be sure to focus on our hope found in Revelation 21:4. If time allows, they can color or draw pictures to illustrate the book.

Tie It Together



God created each one of us. He spoke the world into existence. This was the beginning of His story, from Genesis 1. Through Adam and Eve's sin, evil entered the world, causing separation from God for all of creation. But God, in His grace and mercy, offered us the gift of eternal life by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sin. Believing and trusting in Jesus' death and resurrection makes us right with God, and puts our name in the Book of Life.

But what does this really mean for us? Well God has already written the end to His story. Jesus will return to make everything right by defeating Satan once and for all. God has a plan to create a new heaven and earth for His children, where Revelation tells us He will "wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." We have the choice to believe in a God who has shown His love by giving up His Son for our sake, a

God gives us hope for eternal life – this is the most important decision of our lives. He offers salvation through His Son, restores our relationship with Him, and promises joy, peace, and hope that you are His forever.

Prayer Time

Let's pray and thank God for creating a beautiful story for His creation, and offering eternal hope that only comes through Him.



Gracechurchkids.org

2801 Pelham Rd. Greenville SC 29615 Ph: 864.284.0122 Fx: 864.284.0222