

At the end of the course

Now that the course is over, think about what areas of service and ministry you could get involved with. Your leader will give you a gospel self-assessment questionnaire to read and fill in to help you make the most of what we have been looking at this term.

In preparation:

- Pray about the things you have learned in this course
 - Think about who you could discuss what you have learned on this course with? What steps would be good to take as a result of what God has been teaching you?
 - Think about opportunities at church that there where you could serve - if you are not sure, have a word with your Growth Group leader or congregation leader.
 - How could you go on loving the town or the area where you live? How could you be salt and light, or show your love of justice and mercy towards the poor and marginalised?
 - Look back at the workplace questionnaire on the back of the previous handout. Write down and pray about some practical things you could do in the next few weeks and months to be salt and light at work.
 - Work through the gospel self-assessment questionnaire and be ready to discuss it with someone.
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Session 8 Eternity The World That Is To Come

Recap and Bible Study

Last session we saw that we are to bring shalom to the world. We need to act justly and love mercy, engaging with our neighbours and seeking to win the poor and the marginalised. Was there anything from the 'Before next time' section which you would like to raise or discuss?

- Read together Isaiah 60:15-22
1. What will heaven be like according to Isaiah's description?
 2. Read Revelation 21:1-4, 22-27 - how does John's description of heaven compare with Isaiah's?
 3. How can the knowledge that there will be no violence or destruction in the future kingdom help us and those we come into contact with, to cope with the violence and destruction we experience now?
 4. How is God described in these two passages? What do we learn about Him and what does it mean for our relationship with him?
 5. Why did Israel and the early church need these descriptions of the world that God is going to one day recreate? Why do we need to read these vivid descriptions? In what particular situations might these visions help you this coming week as you seek to live for Jesus in our present world?

Watch the DVD

Use this space to jot anything down you find helpful from Tim Keller

Was there anything from the DVD which was new to you, or which you thought was particularly striking? Anything you were not sure about?

1. Isaiah 60 describes a vision of the New Jerusalem which incorporates achievements of all people and all nations. What aspects of your work do you think could be incorporated by God into this final kingdom? How does this affect the way you view your work?
2. The community described here is one of perfectly restored shalom. What are some of the tangible ways that the church can be now a wonderful foretaste of the community then?

4. What are some things that are competing with God as your 'glory' and the your 'everlasting light'? What do you think would change if God were your only glory and everlasting light?

5. How can we have access to that tree of life that Revelation speaks of? How do these wonderful verses of Isaiah and Revelation impact you?

5. Now that you have completed the 'Gospel in Life' course, take a few minutes to look back through your notes and handouts. Share with the group one thing that has changed and affected you and explain why.

Spend time in prayer

- *Thank God for the hope of this new city. Pray that it would drive you and your group into loving service and action in our town and church.*
- *Thank God for the discoveries you have made in this course and pray that God would allow those lessons to go deep.*
- *Pray for each other's needs, and remember to pray during the week.*