

# Session 1: Heaven as Home

**Overview:** This Easter Weekend, Friday we leaned into the death and crucifixion of Jesus and Sunday we celebrated the resurrection power of Jesus over sin, death and the grave! This Sunday we also began a new collection of talks titled “Heaven as Home”. This message invited us to reflect on the eternal joy of being in the presence of Jesus. From His coming to earth, His sacrifice on the cross and promise of the Holy Spirit dwelling within us Jesus shows us that heaven is not a distant idea but our ultimate home. Through the story of the two criminals at the cross we see that our eternal destination is a choice made possible by His sacrifice. One criminal chose rebellion and destruction while the other chose faith and received the promise that He would be in paradise with Jesus. This message challenges us to ask ourselves, is Heaven truly home for me and am I living for the eternal reality Jesus offers rather than only for the here and now?

## Key Scripture:

- **Luke 24:2-6**
- **Philippians 3:17-21**
- **Luke 23:32-43**
- **1 Peter 1:18-19**
- **John 14:1-3**
- **Romans 10:9**

## Discussion Questions:

1. In **Luke 23** the two criminals had very different responses to Jesus. Which response do you think is most common in people today, and why?
2. Have you ever been more motivated by avoiding hell than by desiring Jesus? What is the difference between those two motivations?
3. The sermon challenged the idea of being a “buzzer beater Christian.” What does real devotion to Jesus look like in everyday life?
4. What are some earthly desires, distractions or mindsets that can pull us away from living as citizens of Heaven?

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you that you are preparing a place for us to one day spend eternity with you, as we go about our days, help us to focus and fix our eyes not on earthly things but eternal things, give us the strength and tools needed to live everyday as citizens of heaven. In Jesus name, Amen.

