

# Activity: Heaven Pictures



FAMILY TIME  
TRAINING

**Teaching Goal:** Heaven is an exciting place that is evolving and changing.

**Scriptures:** Genesis 1 & 2 Revelation 21 & 22:1-6

**Materials:** 3 pieces of paper for each person Color pencils or crayons

## Lesson and discussion

A. ACTIVITY #1: I want each person to draw a picture of heaven. Take time to draw the picture. What do you think most people draw when asked to make a picture of heaven? Listen to answers. Clouds. One reason people draw clouds is that people think of heaven as being up and when we look up we see clouds. Another reason is that heaven is often seen as angels sitting on clouds, singing and playing harps.

In this lesson, we are using the definition of heaven as being in the presence of God, face-to face, without sin. Heaven is being able to live with God free from the negative limitations of sin.

B. ACTIVITY #2: We are going to read a summary of Genesis, Chapters 1 & 2. This is a glimpse of heaven before sin entered the world. God lived and walked with people, Adam and Eve. As I read, make a list of images used to describe heaven. Summary of Genesis 1-2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. There was light, darkness, water, land, sky, sun, moon, stars. There were plants, trees and fruits of all kinds. There were birds, fish & sea creatures, livestock and animals of all kinds. God created a man and woman—Adam and Eve—to live on this land. God placed Adam and Eve in a specific place—the Garden of Eden. Among all the trees that were pleasing to look at and good for food...there was a river and two special trees: the tree of life—eat from this tree and you live forever; the tree of knowledge—eat from this tree and you will know both good and evil. God walked, talked and was present with Adam and Eve. He warned them not to eat from the tree of knowledge. The couple ate the plants for food and were caretakers of the land. Adam was given the job of naming all the animals God created. Eve worked with Adam and the two of them walked about naked without any shame, embarrassment or giggling.

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***FAMILY FUN TIME ACTIVITY***

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### Genesis Chapter 1: Key Words

Earth	Light	Darkness
Water	Sky	Time (evening & morning)
Land	Plants, trees, vegetation	Fruit
Seeds (growth)	Sun	Moon
Stars	Birds, fish, animals	Dinosaurs (?)
Birth (babies & adults)	Humans, male & female	People ruling over animals
Subdue the earth	Plants as food	Variety of plants

### Genesis Chapter 2: Key Words

God creating	Work	Rest
No rain, springs coming up from ground		
Tree of Life	Garden	Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil
River	Gold	Onyx (precious stones)
Land divided into sections	Land and rivers named	Rules (what to eat and what not to eat)
Work: naming animals	God people together	Family units (father & mother)
No clothes	No shame	Snakes talking & walking on legs (Chap 3)

What type of images are used to describe heaven in Genesis 1 & 2? Listen to answers. Green plants. Lots of variety. Lots of animals. Lots of fruit. Peaceful. Warmth (sun, no clothes). Take a second piece of paper and draw a picture of the heaven using colors and images you see in Genesis 1 & 2.

**C. ACTIVITY #3:** We are going to read a summary of Revelation 21 & 22. This is a view of heaven after Jesus returns and Satan has been defeated. God is living with people again. As I read, make a list of images used to describe heaven.

Summary of Revelation 21-22

There was a new heaven and a new earth. On this new earth there are cities including the city of Jerusalem. The cities have very tall brick and stone walls. There are gates in the wall, decorated with precious jewels and precious metals. You see shiny stones, gold and silver. The tree of life with fruit sits next to a river running through the center of town. On this new earth there are nations—lots of people. God is with the people and is pictured sitting on a throne and speaking. There is no sun, moon or darkness because all the light that is needed comes directly from the glory of God. Jesus is there. There are angels. The people are at peace. No tears, no death, no grieving, no pain.

### Chapter 21: Key Words

New Earth	New Heaven	Cities
Jerusalem	God with people	No death, crying or pain
Water of life	Mountain	Walls and gates
Angels	Precious stones & gold	Streets of gold
God & Jesus provide light	No temple	Nations
No night	Book of life	

### Chapter 22 verses 1-6: Key Words

Throne of God	Water of life flowing down middle of great street
Tree of life	Fruit
God reigns	The curse is lifted

- What are the dominating images of heaven as described in Revelation 21 & 22? Listen to answers. Cities, walls, streets. Rivers, gems, gold, trees. Jesus. Nations: lots of people. Take a new piece of paper and draw a colored picture of the heaven you see in Revelation 21 & 22.
- E. Put the three pictures of heaven next to each other.
- What have we learned about heaven? Listen to answers. Heaven is dynamic, it is not static. Heaven is changing! It is exciting. Genesis is a picture of life with God over 6,000 years ago. Why aren't there cities in Genesis like there are in Revelation? There are only two people in Genesis, Adam and Eve. They didn't need cities.
- Heaven is greater than our wildest dreams. We should be excited about going there! And we can go there! Everyone who believes and follows Jesus will live in heaven for all eternity.
- Close in Prayer
- Pass It On: Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on* to another family.