



Sermon Growth Guide

June 27, 2021

Future Jesus - Jesus the River of Life

Revelation 22:1-7

Key Verse: Revelation 22:1-2a “Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb, down the middle of the great street of the city.”

Big Idea: The world is made new in Christ as Future Jesus meets us here and now.

Foundations

Every day we get news that reminds us of what we are painfully aware of—our world is broken, and we don't seem able to fix it. And we don't even have to look at the whole world to see that brokenness. It's all around us in our own city. Those who work for the healing of our world and cities are often overwhelmed by the imbalance between needs and resources.

And when cities break down, people leave them. They don't want to live there anymore. We are seeing those kinds of migrations today. But in Revelation 22, we see a vision of a city that we want to move to ... that we want to live in. It is a city filled with light, life, abundance, peace, and health.

As Pastor Katie shares this passage with us, she asks us to wonder about this delight-filled city and our place in it. Rev 22 tells us that this city “happens” when Jesus comes to make His home with us. So, maybe this heavenly city is not off in a distant future but instead, that future has come to be with us now.

Pray that God will enable you to get glimpses of the city because by the Holy Spirit, Jesus has already made His home with us. And pray that God's Holy Spirit will give you such hope for the ultimate heavenly city that you live like a citizen of the City of God.

Understanding God's Word

What are the symbols of a vibrant life in this city?

What does the healing of the nations mean to you in our time?

What will not be found in the City of God?

What images in this passage give you the most hope?

Applying God's Word

- Martin Luther once said, having been baptized into Christ and joined to Him, we become like “little Christs” as we go into our neighborhoods. As Jesus dwells with us, how shall you dwell in your neighborhood so that others can see glimpses of the life Jesus promises us?
- This passage tells that Living Water and nourishing fruit will sustain our lives. As you examine your daily routines, from what rivers do you drink? What do you really consume, hoping to be satisfied?
- In what ways is God's Word food and drink to you?

Witnessing God's Word

This week, as you move in and about the earthly city that is Colorado Springs, how will you bear the light of the heavenly city into the dark places around us?