

NEW CREATION



John had a vision of a new heaven and a new earth. Eventually Jesus will return and everything will be put back as it should be. We may experience individual failures, but we take comfort in God's ultimate victory.

God has a plan to redeem the whole **world**. Nothing is outside God's transformative power. We join God in that quest to redeem. What can we do to bring this world a little bit closer to wholeness?

Revelation 21:1-8

Sometimes it is difficult to understand all of the vibrant images that John described from his vision, but Christians find comfort in God's ultimate victory. The passage sums up the transformation that is to come: Good will triumph over evil. Death will be eradicated. God will be reunited with creation, and all suffering will end.

Check out these other Bible passages that connect with the theme of New Creation!

- > **Isaiah 43:18-21** What does Isaiah say a new creation looks like?
- > **1 John 3:1-3** Why are we called "children of God"?
- > **1 Corinthians 13:8-13** What things are eternal?

Talk about it!

Use these questions to connect with each other.

- > What about this new earth appeals to you?
- > What does Jesus have to do with being a new creation? How does today's passage remind you of his life?
- > If the earth is going to be recreated, does it matter how we treat it now? Why or why not?

What are preteens thinking?

Some things in this world are just wrong, and preteens know it. This lesson both empowers preteens and grounds them in the fact that everything will be made right in the end. We join the Redeemer in the process, but we rely on God for its completion.

Try this!

New creation is a beautiful thing to watch. Visit a plant nursery and talk about how the death of the seed leads to the life of a new plant. Maybe even bring a plant home to grow together!

Prayer

God, we are thankful that your new creation is coming! We pray that we will show your love here as we wait for your return. Amen.