

HIS  
PLAN  
OUR  
PURPOSE

# IS THERE MORE?

*Understanding the Storyline of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation*

THE STORIES OF **POWER, CHANGE + HEAVEN**

TEACHER GUIDE

28  
nineteen<sup>™</sup>

# THE WHOLE STORY

Warren Wiersbe writes, “When He wrote the Bible, God didn’t give us a ponderous theology book divided into sections labeled God, Creation, Man, Sin, and so forth. Instead, He gave us a story, a narrative that begins in eternity past and ends in eternity future.”



## THE STORY OF **GRACE**

> *January*



## THE STORY OF **DELIVERANCE**

> *February*



## THE STORY OF **PROMISE**

> *March*



## THE STORY OF **FAITH**

> *April*



## THE STORY OF **RENEWAL**

> *May*



## THE STORY OF **PURPOSE**

> *June, July + August*



## THE STORY OF **CHRIST: IN HIS OWN WORDS**

> *August + September*

FEATU  
RED



## THE STORY OF **POWER**

> *October*



## THE STORY OF **CHANGE**

> *November*



## THE STORY OF **HEAVEN**

> *December*

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THE TRUTH IS THAT  
HEAVEN IS A GREAT MYSTERY  
IN MANY RESPECTS.

# THE STORY OF HEAVEN

This entire year we have sought to understand the storyline of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. In January, we began in Genesis, and appropriately in December, we finish with Revelation. We began with the Story of Grace and will finish with the Story of Heaven. It is undeniable that the realities of heaven are only possible because of God's grace.

Though the book of Revelation is filled with the prophecy of end times, battles, judgments, and victories, we will focus on the passages concerning heaven. This series reveals the beauty, mystery, and unveiling of heaven. In fact, the word "revelation" is the Greek word "*Apokalupsis*," which means "unveiling, uncovering that which was hidden."<sup>1</sup>

The first verse of Revelation explains it well, "*The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John.*" (Revelation 1:1)

In this book, the Holy Spirit pulls back the curtain and gives us the privilege of seeing the glorified Christ in heaven and the fulfillment of His sovereign purposes in the world.<sup>2</sup> It is the unveiling of Jesus Christ given to the Apostle John, who is in his 90's and exiled on the island of Patmos. Even though John had seen Jesus up close and personal for over three years as one of His closest friends on this earth, John had never seen Jesus the Christ unveiled in His heavenly home.

Some think of heaven in images of big white fluffy clouds or streets of gold. Perhaps some think of the grandest of mansions lining a hillside. Others immediately think of Saint Peter standing at the pearly gates. The truth is that heaven is a great mystery in many respects. We try to conceive in our finite minds that which is eternal and infinite. Most will picture heaven based on what they have seen in paintings, drawings, and other forms of artistic or literary media. Peaceful. Tranquil. Perfect.

Heaven is home for those who believe in Christ Jesus. Heaven is more than a destination; it is a motivation. Knowing that we shall dwell in the heavenly city ought to make a difference in our lives here and now.<sup>3</sup> This is the Story of Heaven as it was unveiled to John.

December 5-6 The Scroll and the Lamb - Revelation 5

December 12-13 The Old and the New - Revelation 21

December 19-20 The River and the Tree - Revelation 22

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<sup>1</sup> [www.biblehub.com/greek](http://www.biblehub.com/greek)

<sup>2</sup> Warren Wiersbe, *The Wiersbe Bible Commentary, NT*; David C. Cook, Colorado Springs, CO, 2007, p. 1036.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, p. 1082.