



Lesson 1: A New Heaven and a New Earth! Online Plan

<u>Key Teaching Point</u>	Jesus is preparing a new future for God’s children.
<u>Bible Verse</u>	“And the one sitting on the throne said, ‘Look, I am making everything new!’ And then he said to me, ‘Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.’” (Revelation 21:5, NLT).
<u>Scripture Passage</u>	“A new future for God’s children.” (Revelation 21, NLT)
<u>Materials</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Bible ● 01: “A New Heaven and a New Earth” Zoom Slides
<u>Mystery Bag</u> (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A non-perishable, individually-wrapped snack

Relate (10 minutes)

Welcome students with a snack.

Greet crew members as they sign on.

Icebreaker Options (choose one):

- Ask students to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week.)
- Rosebud: Ask students to share a highlight or success from the week (a rose), a challenge or disappointment from the week (a thorn) and something they are looking forward to doing or experiencing in the week ahead (a bud).
- Open a discussion with a question, “What do you think heaven will be like?”

Play a game.

Draw and Guess

Divide students into two teams and ask one player from each team to take a turn drawing an item for their team to guess using the Zoom whiteboard feature.

Before they do this, send them an object in the chat box. Be sure to remind the students not to say the word aloud or talk while they are drawing. Give them an allotted time to draw their picture (this may vary depending on age, but start with

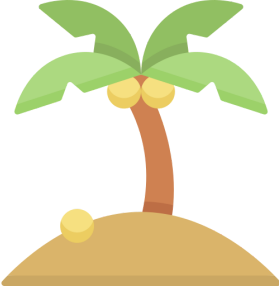

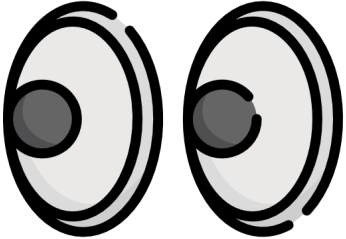
thirty seconds) and if their team members guess within the time frame, give the team a point. Play several rounds to give other students a chance to draw for their team.




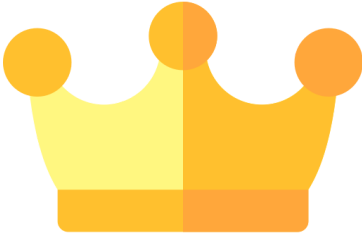
Or, choose another game from the [Zoom Playbook](#).

 **Receive** (10 minutes)


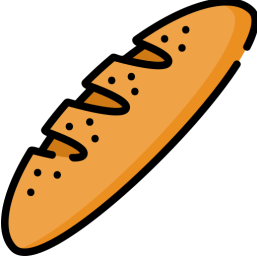


Read God's Word.

Pull up the Zoom slides and share your screen. Tell the Bible story using the guide below, flipping through the emojis as you go. After you share the Bible story, go through the emojis again, asking students to help you retell the story.

	<p>There once was a man named John who loved Jesus. He talked about him so much that a bunch of leaders put him in a prison cell on an island in the middle of the ocean!</p>
	<p>One morning, Jesus appeared to John. He said to John: "I'm going to show you what will happen when I come back to the earth. Write down what you see so that God's children can read it and wait in hopeful excitement for their future with me."</p>
	<p>And this is what John saw...</p>

	<p>He saw a new heaven and a new earth. The heaven and earth that John was familiar with had disappeared. Heaven and earth looked different.</p>
	<p>John saw a bright city coming down from God in heaven and it was shining like the sun. Heaven was coming down to the earth!</p>
	<p>The city and its walls were made of precious stones and there was a street down the middle, pure as gold!</p>
	<p>John saw a king on his throne. The king was Jesus. This is what Jesus announced from his throne: "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people..."</p>

 A yellow circular emoji with a sad expression, a single blue tear falling from its right eye, and a downturned mouth.	<p>He will wipe every tear from their eyes! There will be no more crying and no more sorrow.</p>
 A yellow circular emoji with a sick expression, a red and blue thermometer in its mouth, and a green circular glow around it.	<p>There will be no more sickness and no more death!</p>
 A colorful running shoe with yellow, blue, and red sections.	<p>There will be no more hiding or running away.</p>
 A yellow circular emoji with a fearful expression, wide eyes, and a wavy, open mouth.	<p>There will be no more loneliness and no more fear.</p>

	<p>There will be no more darkness, no more night.</p>
	<p>There will be no more hunger and no more thirst.</p>
	<p>There will be no more pain! All of these things will be gone forever. Look, I am making everything new!"</p>
	<p>After showing John these things, Jesus said to John, "I am the beginning and I am the ending. This is the wonderful future I give to the children of God, those who put their faith and hope in me: life forever with me!"</p>



Respond (10 minutes)

Apply God's truth.

God promises to take all the broken and sad things in this world and make them new again.

What broken or sad things do we face in our world today?

Take student responses. You may want to give a couple examples to get them started.

- Broken friendships
- Cancer
- Broken bones
- Earthquakes and floods

One by one, announce the following items, asking students to respond with the person, place or thing that can fix the item if it's broken.

- A cell phone (the store)
- A mug (glue)
- A guitar (a music store)
- A tire (a car shop)

What about a broken heart, a heart that is far from God? What about broken relationships and broken friendships? What about death, pain and sickness? What about natural disasters or the accidents that happen in our lives? Who can fix these things?

Take student responses.

Only God can fix these broken things and make them new again. And guess what? God promises that he will make these broken things new, and God's promises are trustworthy and true...God always follows through on his promises. Let's review our Bible verse.

“And the one sitting on the throne said, ‘Look, I am making everything new!’ And then he said to me, ‘Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.’”
(Revelation 21:5, NLT).

Jesus is making and will make everything new, all in his timing. What do we do, as we wait for Jesus to make everything new?

Take student responses.

No matter how tough life gets, we can wait in hope that God will fix the broken things and make them better, all in his timing. When we experience tough or sad things in our lives, we can always turn to God and trust that he will be true to his promise to make everything better one day and to wipe away every tear from our eyes.

Optional discussion:

- **How will this promise change how you live this week?**
- **How will this promise change how you deal with the problems or pain you face in life?**
- **What does it look like to live with hope?**

Close in prayer together.

Some of us may be facing some of these tough or sad things right now.

Take prayer requests if students are comfortable and spend time praying over those requests. Emphasize that even when we face these tough or sad things, we can bring them to God in prayer because he will be faithful to his promise to make everything new, all in his timing. Then close praying the following prayer with your students:

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for your plan of salvation and for sending Jesus to be our king and to make all things new. Thank you that you have a new future planned for all who put their trust and faith in Jesus; the day is coming when you will make a new heaven and a new earth, where sin and death will be no more and you will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Thank you for giving me hope and a future of life forever with you!

Amen