

# What does Heaven look like?

The human person is a unique combination of body and soul. When someone dies, their body separates from their soul. Death was not part of God's original plan for human persons.

Death is now part of our experience because of original sin. Adam and Eve (the first human persons) disobeyed God. Their disobedience and lack of trust in God is called original sin. This hurt the relationship between God and all human persons and brought death into the world.

Jesus has conquered death. He will come again at the end of the world to glorify our male and female bodies and reunite them to our souls in heaven forever.

1) **Read Philipians 3:21.** When someone dies, their soul separates from their body. What happens to the body and soul after the person is raised from the dead?

2) Jesus gave us a preview of what to expect when our bodies become glorified. Read the following scripture passages about Jesus' glorified body and answer the questions below. Remember, these Scriptures are about Jesus after he rose from the dead and his body was glorified.

John 20:26 John 20:27-28 Luke 24:29-35 Luke 24:41-43

#### Check the boxes that describe Jesus' resurrected body.

Jesus could enter locked rooms with his glorified body.



Jesus became really good at dancing with his glorified body.

People, like Thomas, could touch Jesus' glorified body.

Death was not part of God's original plan for human persons. When someone dies, their body separates from their soul. Jesus will come again at the end of the world to restore the unity of the body and soul, male or female.

Write the phrase "Unity of Body + Soul" in the second circle of your timeline to show that Jesus will come again at the end of the world to reunite our body and soul, male or female.

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God is a communion of persons. God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are an eternal exchange of life-giving love.

God invites us into that communion with him forever in heaven.

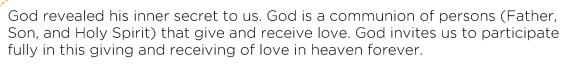


#### Read John 14:2-3. Answer the questions below.

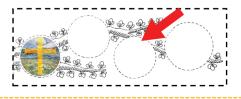
3) What does Jesus promise he will do after he prepares a place for us?

4) Jesus says, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." What is 'my Father's house' referring to?





Write the words, "Unity with God" in the third circle of your timeline to show that God will restore our perfect union with him in heaven forever.



Sin wounded our relationship with God and other human persons. We now struggle to have perfect friendships with God and other humans.

God invites us into communion with him forever in heaven. Our perfect communion with God in heaven allows us to be in perfect union with others.

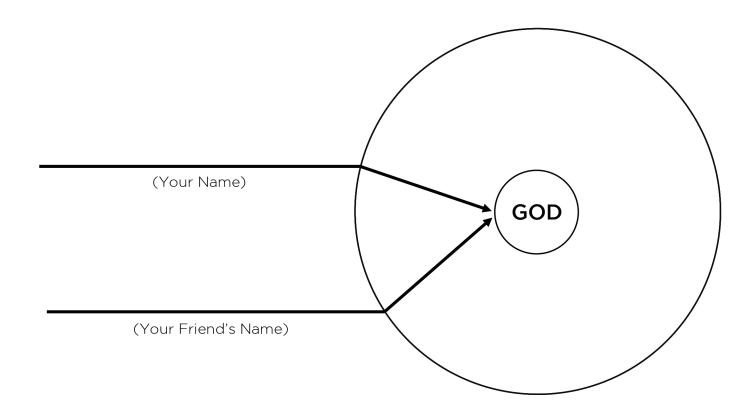
In heaven, we not only become one with God, we become one with the communion of saints, and remain either male or female. Remember, the saints are the people in heaven.

God restores our perfect union with others in heaven. Write the words, "Unity with Others" in the third circle of your timeline to show that God will restore our perfect union with others (the Communion of Saints) in heaven forever.



5) Look at the Figure below. The lines represent human persons. The closer we get to perfect union with God in heaven, the more perfect our union with other human persons will be.

Write your name on the first line below. Write your friend's name on the second line below. Notice how you and your friend grow closer as you journey toward communion with God in heaven.







#### John 14:2-3

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.

#### Philipians 3:21

He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body

#### Luke 24:41-43

(Jesus) asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

#### John 20:26

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."

### John 20:27-28

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

#### Luke 24:29-35

But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning (within us) while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

