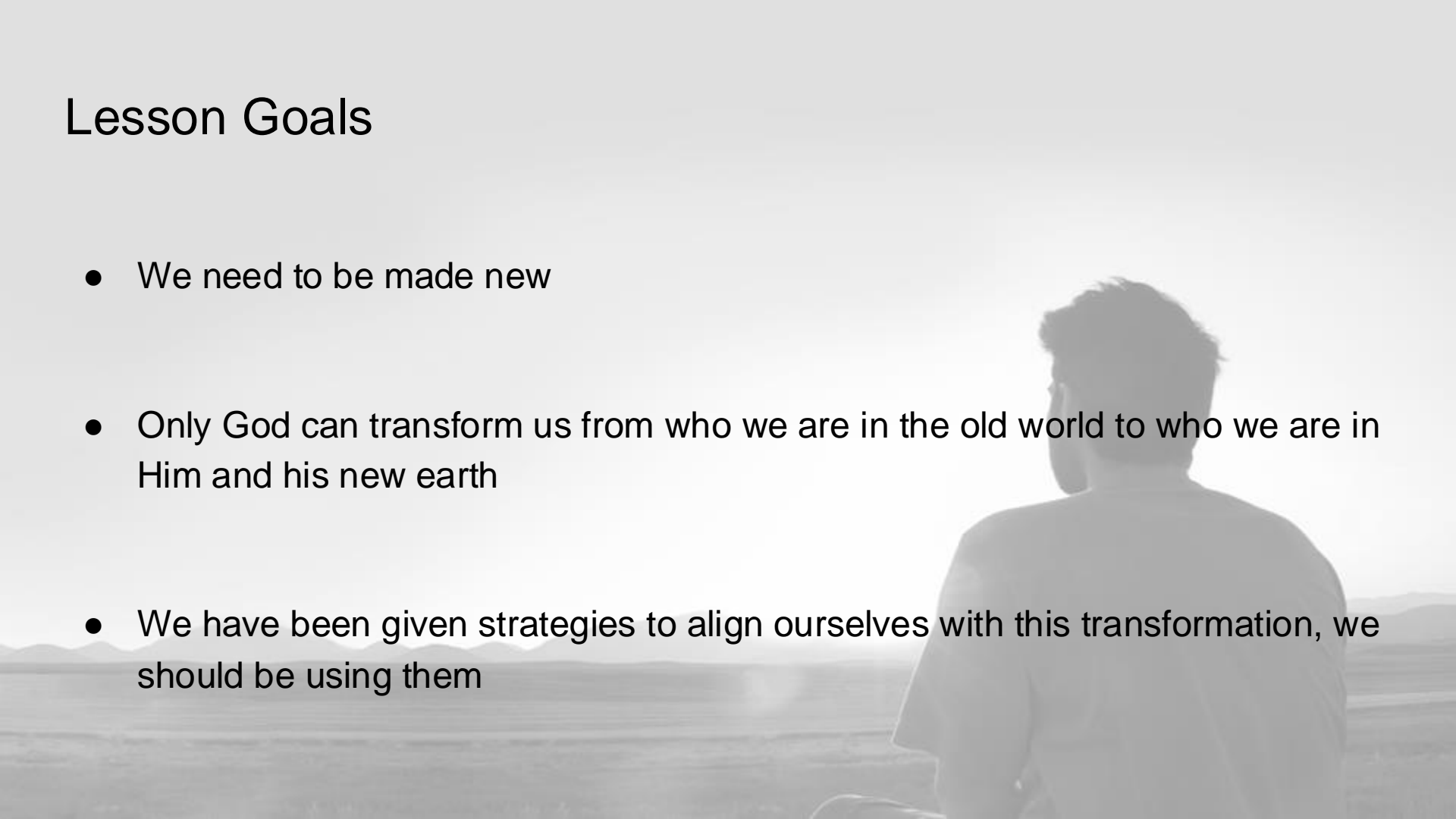


# Make All Things New

Revelation 21:5-8



# Lesson Goals

- We need to be made new
  - Only God can transform us from who we are in the old world to who we are in Him and his new earth
  - We have been given strategies to align ourselves with this transformation, we should be using them
- 
- A person is sitting on a beach, looking out at the ocean at sunset. The person is in the foreground, seen from the back, and is looking towards the horizon where the sun is setting. The background shows the ocean and distant mountains under a bright, hazy sky.

## Revelations 21:5-6a Write that one down

*He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End."*

John has already been instructed to write down all he sees and hears in this vision - the second instruction has particular meaning

There are times when God can be negotiated with (Abraham, Jacob, Solomon) and there are times when God is set on His course of action.

God is making it clear here - what comes next is reliable, true, immutable and already done.

# Revelations 21:8 A fate worse than death: second death

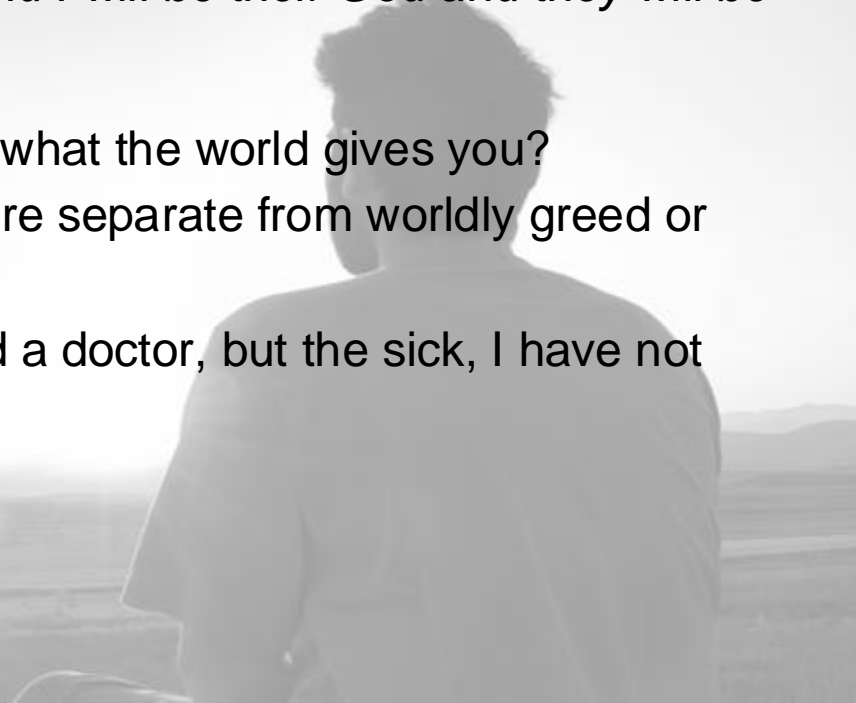
*But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars - they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.*

- Remember Christ's words: anyone who has hated a brother is a murderer in their heart. Anyone who has looked at another with lust in their heart has committed adultery
- While this is the end of the 'trustworthy and true' words, it is the beginning point for us all
- Romans 3:23 All have sinned and fallen short. We all need to be 'made new'

# Revelations 21:6b The Thirsty

*“To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.*

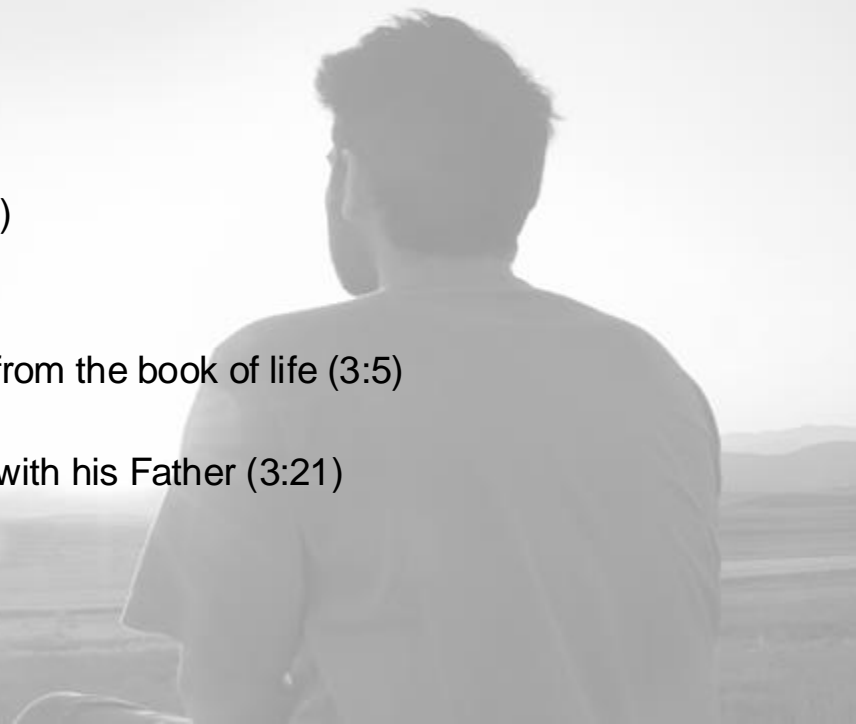
- Are you thirsty? Or are you satisfied with what the world gives you?
- This is a spiritual thirst - physical needs are separate from worldly greed or spiritual thirst (give us our daily bread)
- Mark 2:17 - It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick, I have not come to call the righteous but the sinner



# Revelations 21:7 The Victorious

*Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.*

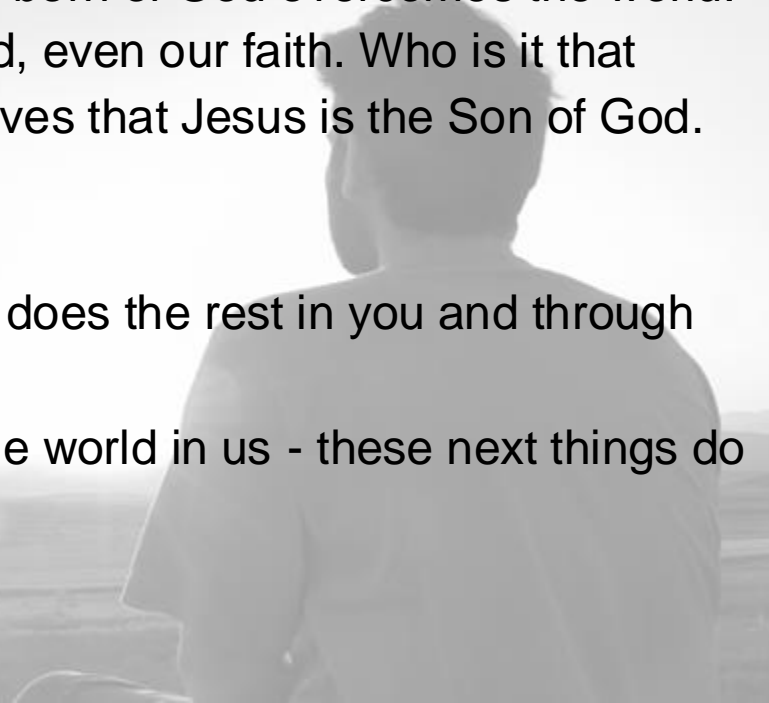
- To the one who is victorious, God gives:
  - The right to eat from the tree of life (Rev 2:7)
  - Will not be hurt at all by the second death (2:11)
  - Will be given hidden manna (2:17)
  - Authority over the nations (2:26)
  - Dressed in white, their name never blotted out from the book of life (3:5)
  - Made a pillar in the temple (3:12)
  - Sit with Christ on His throne, just as Christ sits with his Father (3:21)



# Claiming Victory: Overcoming the World

1 John 5:3-5: In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

- The only necessary action is belief - God does the rest in you and through you
- We overcome the world around us and the world in us - these next things do not save us, but they do change us



# Claiming Victory: Communal Worship

Hebrews 20:24-25 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- Communal worship strengthens resolve and builds community
- Worship is everything we do at church: prayer, singing, giving/serving, sharing in God's word, morning tea community time, we need all of it.
- Membership: taking responsibility for the governance of your community
- Ministry Engagement: serving in community
- EFG: meeting with community outside of the Sunday

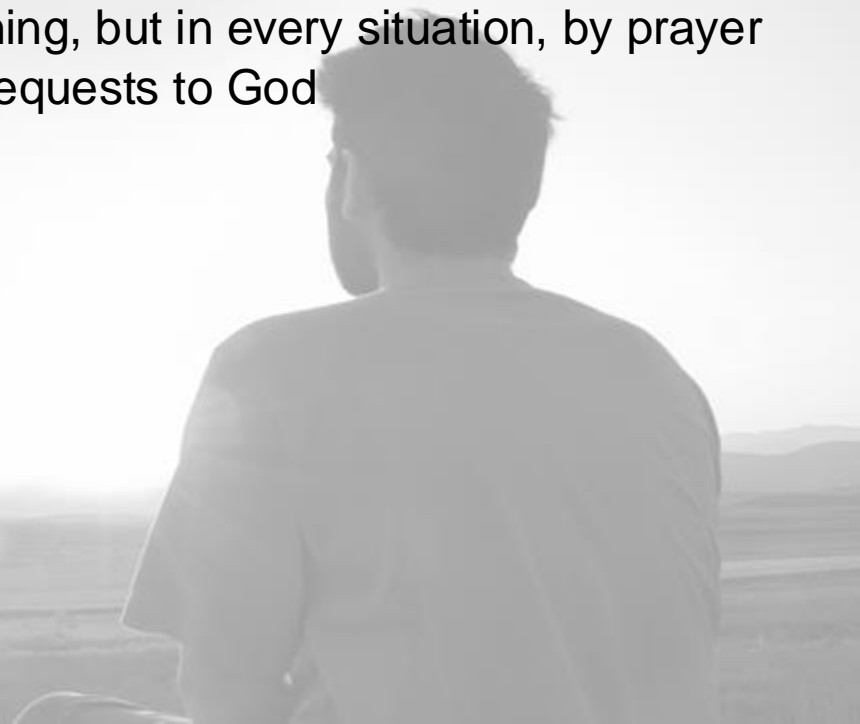


# Claiming Victory: Prayer

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing

Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God

- Prayers of Praise
- Prayers of Thanksgiving
- Prayers of Petition
- Prayers of Communication
- The Lord's Prayer
- Historical Prayer
- Psalms



# Claiming Victory: Bible Reading

Joshua 1:8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful

- Prosperous and successful - one even might say victorious?
- Where should you start? It is more important that you start than to start in the 'right' place.
- When do I read, I don't have time: audio-books exist!
- Podcasts, youtube and contemporary books exist, and can be helpful, but none of them should replace reading and meditating on the word yourself.
- Pray for the eyes to see and the ears to hear

# Claiming Victory: Baptism

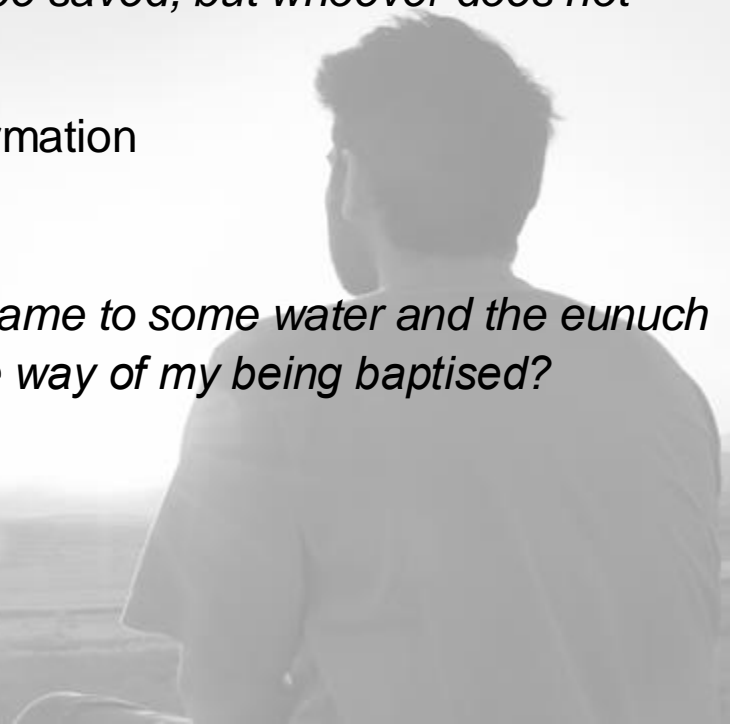
*Mark 16:15-16 He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”*

An outward representation of the inward transformation

Baptism claims victory over the inward conflict

*Acts 8:36 As they traveled along the road they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?”*

What stands in the way?



# Claiming Victory: Communion

*1 Corinthians 11:24 and 25 - do this in remembrance*

Where baptism is something we do once, communion is a regular remembrance

As often as we eat or drink it, we remember and reclaim the victory of Christ over sin and death

Many denominations have different beliefs about what is transformational in communion, but the most important transformation is within us

Daily we are to be made new, as we remember Christ's victory for us

