

## If we walk with God, we grow closer to Him every day

There is a story about a little boy who studied about Enoch in his Bible class. When his parents quizzed him as to what he had learned about Enoch, he said, “Well, Enoch walked with God. And they walked and walked and walked, until they were so far from Enoch’s house that God said, ‘Enoch, why don’t you just come on and go home with Me?’” That is not a bad view of what seems to have happened between Enoch and God. And though it is not to be expected that we will be translated from this world in the same manner as Enoch, there is still an important point here. ***If we walk with God, we grow closer to Him every day.*** And if we walk with Him long enough, it gets to the point where we are so “far away” from the world that is our home right now that heaven is the only place we can truly call home. The more we grow to be like our Father, the less at home we will be anywhere but where He lives.

Every day that we live on this earth, we are one day closer to going to heaven. Each step we take with the Lord takes us that much nearer the home He has prepared for us. This week, let’s concentrate on that thought. Let’s see if we can’t make heaven more real to ourselves, and realize that at the pace life goes nowadays it will be here before long! As the song says, “Just a few more days to be filled with praise, and to tell the old, old story; then, when twilight falls, and my Savior calls, I shall go to Him in glory.” We can do the Lord’s will (**Hb. 13:20,21**). We can please the Lord (**Hb. 11:5,6**). And every day that we do these things, we move closer to God.

Another one of our older songs says, “When we walk with the Lord in the light of His word, what a glory He sheds on our way!” On our way to heaven, God brightens the path upon which we walk even in the present world. It is not as though we are bound for heaven but must endure a dreary ordeal until we get there. No, the Christian is privileged to have many foretastes of the joy of heaven before he arrives. Doing the Lord’s work with the Lord’s people is a glorious thing in itself. But just over the horizon, our Father beckons us home to rest — and, even at this moment, we may be closer to that rest than we think. Let’s not fall short of the thing we have looked forward to all our lives. Let’s strive for heaven this week, and hasten the day of the Lord’s coming.

### Monday: 2 Kings 2:1-14

**Key Idea:** God wants those who love and obey Him to be with Him.

**Questions for Family Growth:** What kind of person was Elijah? How did God take him home to heaven? Even though we won’t go to heaven in the same way as Elijah, should we not look forward to being with God when we die?

**Wisdom for the Day:** **Proverbs 13:1.**

## Tuesday: Hebrews 11:8-10,13-16

**Key Idea:** If we love and obey God, we can go to live in the city that He has built.

**Questions for Family Growth:** What kind of person was Abraham? In **v.10**, what kind of city does it say he was looking for? Did he find that city in this world? Where is it, according to **v.16**? What are some things that make heaven a “better country”?

**Wisdom for the Day:** **Proverbs 13:2,3.**

## Wednesday: Revelation 4:1-11

**Key Idea:** It will be wonderful to be where God’s throne is.

**Questions for Family Growth:** Describe what John said that he saw. What were the people doing who were around God’s throne? What were they saying? How do you think we will feel when we ourselves are in God’s presence?

**Wisdom for the Day:** **Proverbs 13:4.**

## Thursday: 2 Peter 1:1-11

**Key Idea:** To go to heaven, we must learn to love the same things God does.

**Questions for Family Growth:** What do you think it means to become “partakers of the divine nature” (**v.4**)? What are the things Peter says we must add to our faith? What will these things do for us, according to **vv.10,11**?

**Wisdom for the Day:** **Proverbs 13:5,6.**

## Friday: Hebrews 9:27,28

**Key Idea:** We are looking forward to the day when Christ will come back to take us to heaven.

**Questions for Family Growth:** What is the thing that everyone is “appointed” to do? What comes after that? When Christ appears a second time, what will it be for? What does it mean to be “eagerly waiting” for Christ?

**Wisdom for the Day:** **Proverbs 13:7.**

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