

Story of Pastor Dennis getting ready for his trip this fall.

## Truth about Life & Heaven

1. Everyone has a terminal illness (we are mortal).
2. Heaven is a reality that we can know and understand as well as something we can plan for.  
*Do you know where you are going and how to get there?*

Heaven is the ***Presence of God***

## Planning for our Trip to Heaven:

- ◆ Heaven is a real place that God has prepared for those who love Him.  
Picture of Heaven in Revelation
- ◆ Heaven is not a default destination – Hell is.  
The number of deaths daily averages 4 per second.  
Heaven vs. Hell – What choice have you made?
- ◆ You can know that you are going to Heaven.  
Quote on a tomb in Indiana:  
*Pause, stranger, when you pass me by; As you are now, so once was I.  
As I am now, so you will be. So prepare for death and follow me.*  
A passerby scratched these additional words on the tombstone:  
*To follow you I'm not content, Until I know which way you went.*

Genesis 1:1 “God created the heavens and the earth.” 1 John 5:13 “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.”

## He tells us how to get there so that we can have our plans made today:

- ◆ We are all sinners. To sin is to fall short of God’s Holy Standards. Sin is to miss the mark. It started with Adam & Eve’s independence and rebellion in the Garden.  
Most people are not going to Heaven. Matt. 7:14 – “*small is the gate and narrow the road...*”  
Hell is the absence of God. Hell is the punishment of sin with no hope of relief.  
Poem of Inferno “Abandon every hope, you who enter.”  
Sin results in death. “*All have sinned...*”
- ◆ Forgiveness is recognizing our sinful state and turning our back on sin – repentance. I John 1:9
- ◆ Jesus provided the solution – the door to Heaven. “*...but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*”  
Jesus’ sacrifice dealt with sin. We cannot pay our own way. God offers this freely because of His unbelievable love for us. John 3:16 “*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*” We can accept this free gift today.

## Bible References:

- |   |   |                                      |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 3:1       | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 John 5:13              | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 3:23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genesis 1:1          | <input type="checkbox"/> Genesis Ch. 3 (The Fall) | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 6:23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 21:10, 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 7:14             | <input type="checkbox"/> John 3:16   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 2:9    | <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 20:15         | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 John 1:9  |

## Home Group Questions:

*How must we help prepare ourselves and others for Heaven?*

*What does it mean to be in the Presence of God?*

*Why is Jesus (The Truth and The Way) the only “door” to Heaven?*