



## **Sermon Discussion Guide**

### **January 4, 2026**

#### **Refresh**

Read Hebrews 11:13-16; John 14:1-7; 2 Peter 3:10-13 to get the Scripture passages back in your mind.

#### **Discuss**

Pastor Mark described two ways of reflecting on life: looking backward and looking forward. Which do you tend to default toward, and how has that shaped your spiritual life, for better or worse?

We were confronted with the question of whether we truly desire heaven or secretly hope Christ's return is delayed. Which side do you tend to fall toward in your daily life? What do you think most competes with our longing for heaven today, and how can we grow in our longing for heaven every day?

What examples were given of Old and New Testament saints longing to be with God? What stands out to you from these examples, and how does their perspective challenge the way we think about "success" or fulfillment in this life?

Many Christians struggle with vague or unbiblical ideas of heaven. What are some common misconceptions of what heaven will be like? How did the sermon help reshape your understanding of the new heaven and new earth, and what aspects of heaven are most compelling to you?

Scripture presents eternity not as an escape from creation, but its renewal. How might the idea that heaven is a perfected, physical, joyful place change the way you view your current work, pleasures, and stewardship on earth?

According to 2 Peter 3, thinking rightly about the future should affect how we live now. In what practical ways should a stronger hope of heaven shape our holiness, priorities, and daily decisions? How can we orient our hearts and minds to be impacted daily by the reality of eternity?

The early church regularly lived and spoke with the expectation of Christ's return. What might change in our church, families, or personal lives if "Our Lord, come!" was truly on the forefront of our hearts? What rhythms can you establish to keep this reality in mind throughout your life?