

HEAVEN TO EARTH

LESSON 3 // THE PROVISIONS OF HEAVEN

Big Idea: There is no lack in heaven. Any and everything you could ever need is warehoused there and God longs to get the provisions of heaven to your earth!

To experience heaven's provisions, you must understand that God sees and supplies all your needs. He cares about what you are going through and lifts you up by His grace. He empowers you to overcome any obstacle. As part of this process, the Lord requests your cooperation. He wants you to receive His provision, but also calls you to be a giver and server so He can do miracles through you in the lives of others.

John 5:5-9a (NIV) *One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" ⁷ "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." ⁸ Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." ⁹ At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked!"*

Start Talking:

- If you can choose one item to never run out of what would it be?
- Share one time that you experienced great fulfillment by meeting someone else's needs.

Start Thinking:

- **Read John 5:5-9.** When Jesus met the lame man, he asked him if he wanted to get well. The lame man immediately gave Jesus reasons why he couldn't get well. Why do you think he responded this way? How had his past come to define him? Have you ever faced fear, challenges, or problem that seemed to define you? How did you respond to it?
- This weekend Pastor Dale shared that Jesus doesn't define us by our past, but rather sees a better tomorrow for us and prepares us for it. What responsibility do we have in the process? Why does God desire our cooperation for us to experience change?
- **Read John 6:5-12 & Acts 20:35.** We know that God is the source of every miracle, yet with many miracles there is a "server and receiver". From the story in John 6, how can we begin to position ourselves as "givers"? How would you explain to someone the principle shared in Acts 20:35- it is better to give than to receive?
- **Read Mark 1:21-25.** In verse 22 it says *"The people were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority..."* What authority do you think the Bible is referring to? What encouragement can we draw upon when facing challenges and spiritual battles in our lives?

Start Praying:

Ask group members to share the needs that they currently have. Take time to pray for one another and ask God boldly for His provision. Also, you can place people in pairs and ask each person to commit to praying daily for the other person's needs.

Start Doing:

- Invite those in your group to prayerfully consider supporting outreach efforts at Church of the Redeemer. Support can be offered by volunteering, donating products, or offering financial support (for those that are able). For more information visit: <https://church-redeemer.org/ministries/outreach/covid-19>