



Diving Deeper: A Gather Group discussion guide  
or personal devotional guide



## A Walk in the Clouds

**Introduction:** Hollywood created a romance movie about a WWII soldier who returns from the war. Through a series of life's hard knocks and tough choices the quest for true love is set in motion. The Bible has the better story. The Bible shares the story of a God who displays what true love really looks like. The God of the Bible is a God who pursues a prodigal people. He sent His only begotten son to die for the sins of humanity so that He might redeem for Himself a people. The Lord Jesus died on a cross, rose from the grave, ascended into the clouds, and will return in the clouds to gather his elect from the four winds . . . and we will take the most amazing "Walk in the Clouds."

**Text:** Read Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 14:61-62, Acts 1:6-11, Revelation 1:5-8

### Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: What comes to your mind when you think of Heaven? Write/Discuss
2. Genesis 1 tells us that God made the heavens and the earth. Read Jeremiah 51:15. What is the significance that God is beyond heaven and is the creator of heaven?
3. Read Isaiah 66:1 and Acts 7:56. What other scriptures can you find that speaks of God dwelling in heaven?
4. Read Nehemiah 9:6. What other scriptures speak of Angels in heaven?
5. Some people teach that when you die you just go into a sleep. Why is this not true according to Luke 23:43 and 2 Cor.5:6-8? How does knowing that believers go on to be with the Lord help you when you have lost loved ones who loved the Lord?
6. Read John 14:1-3—how does it make you feel that Jesus has prepared a place for you?
7. Some people teach that when you die you go to a holding place or a purgatory to pay off some of your sins. Why is this not true according to Hebrews 9:27?
8. Jesus taught us to see for treasures in heaven (Matthew 6:20). He would often encourage his disciples with words of encouragement that their reward would be great in heaven. How does knowing that there will be rewards for faithfulness motivate you to live out your faith?
9. Look up Matt. 5:12, Matt. 25:40, Matt. 10:42, 2 Tim 4:6-8, James 1:12, Rev. 2:10, 1 Cor. 9:24-25, 1 Peter 5:4, Philippians 4:1, 1 Cor. 3:10-15. What are some of the crowns and rewards listed in these passages? How are you living out your faith to receive these rewards? Are you building with gold, silver, and precious stones?
10. Read Rev. 21:4. What emotions and feelings flood your soul when you read this verse?
11. Read Rev. 22:15. Why is it good that God doesn't allow people who do not love him to enter heaven?
12. Read Matthew 13:44-46. What does this say about how you invest your life? How will you live accordingly?
13. Psalm 116:15. God views the death of his children different than we see death. Why is death not a punishment for the believer?
14. Read 1 Cor. 15:47-55. The Christian has the hope of a resurrected glorified immortal body! Write/Discuss the hope this brings to you as a follower of Christ.
15. Read Matthew 7:21-23. Those who trust in their own works will not enter heaven. We are saved by the finished work of Jesus. The work of God that we are to do is found in John 6:29. Does this demonstrate why the gospel message is important to share? Who needs to hear the good news of Jesus in your circle of friends, family, and co-workers?

### Think About it:

Heaven is real because Jesus and his word says it is real. The only way to get there is by trusting in Jesus. Those who place their faith in Christ are guaranteed a place in heaven. If you know Jesus, wouldn't it be great to invite others to go with you? It will be the greatest destination for all eternity!.

### Moving Forward:

Take time this week to thank the Lord for His grace and mercy. Think on the beauties of heaven and allow it to motivate you to live to honor Jesus and invite others to experience his wondrous love!