

Introduction:

1. How might a person, who does not have a close relationship with God, respond when asked: “How do you get to heaven?” Prior to your relationship with God, how would you have responded to that question?
2. In the Bible we get glimpses of what heaven looks and sounds like (Revelation 4). Before reading these, what was your picture of heaven?

Understanding:

3. In 1 Peter 3:15, Peter tells us to “sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts”. What does the word sanctify or sanctification mean? What is the difference between sanctification and justification?
4. Why does Peter want you to always be ready to make a defense for the hope that is in you?
5. What is your reaction to the Barna analysis that stated: 43 percent of Americans in general agreed with the statement: “It doesn’t matter what religious faith you follow because they all teach the same lessons.”
6. The same Barna analysis stated: 25 percent of Christians who describe themselves as “born again”, agreed that all people are eventually saved or accepted by God. What are your feelings or thoughts on that statistic or statement?
7. Jesus spent so much time with his disciples. In John 14:5, Thomas says to Jesus, “we don’t know where you going, so how can we know the way?” Reading further in verse 8, Philip ask Jesus to “show us the Father and that would be enough.” Why do you think it was so difficult for his disciples to understand?
8. What are your thoughts or feelings regarding Oprah Windrey stating: “I am a Christian who believes that there are certainly many more paths to God other than Christianity”?
9. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. Why does it take perseverance in this race to help us and others understand that Jesus is the only way to God?

Application:

10. Walt talked about putting our focus back on God. What are some ways you can “fix your eyes on Jesus” this week?
11. In 1 Corinthians 4, Paul tells us to: “fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal”. As you pray this week, pray that God will allow you to see what is unseen!