



Pacific Community Church

Growth Group Sermon Questions

Date: October 11th, 2026

Sermon Series: Standalone

Sermon Title: “The Beatific Vision: What Keeps Us Free From Babylon’s Grip”

Primary Text(s): Revelation 21-22

1. **Read Revelation 21-22.**
2. **Icebreaker Question:** If you could spend one week anywhere in the world, where would you go and what would you want to do there?

Leader's Notes: Keep this light and fun. You can ask follow-up about what makes the place appealing to them. This can naturally open the door to thinking about what we imagine makes a place truly “good” or fulfilling.

3. **When you think about heaven, what images or ideas have you traditionally pictured? How does the vision of the New Jerusalem in Revelation 21-22 compare with those ideas?**

Leader's Notes: There are no “wrong” answers here. The sermon emphasizes that Scripture gives us mystery and metaphor, so encourage people to hold their ideas with humility. The vision is much more physical, beautiful, communal, and grounded in God’s presence than the common picture of floating on clouds.

4. **The sermon said, “God is making all things new,” rather than “God is making all new things.” What difference does that distinction make?**

Leader's Notes: Help the group notice that the future God promises is not about throwing away creation but redeeming and restoring it. This gives dignity to our physical world and to our efforts to steward creation today.

5. **Revelation describes God’s people as the very “building materials” of the New Jerusalem, including people like Jacob, Reuben, Simeon, and Peter, whose stories included significant failure. What does this teach us about how God sees our past?**

Leader's Notes: The sermon describes heaven as “an intricate system of completions,” where God brings our stories to a beautiful finish. Invite people to reflect on the difference between being defined by our past and allowing Go to redeem our past.

6. **The sermon traces a biblical story of God dwelling with His people—from Eden to the tabernacle and temple, to Jesus, to the Holy Spirit dwelling in the Church, and ultimately to the New Jerusalem. What does this storyline reveal about what God ultimately wants?**

Leader's Notes: The key idea is that God is what we were made for. The goal of Scripture isn't simply getting people to heaven. It is God restoring the relationship between Himself and His people and ultimately dwelling with them fully.

7. **The climax of the vision is that “they will see his face,” or the Beatific Vision. What do you think it would mean to actually see God face to face?**

Leader's Notes: Give this question some space. The sermon describes this not as a one-time experience but as an ever-expanding encounter with God.

Follow Up Questions: What do you think you would feel? What would change about you?

8. **If God Himself is the fulfillment of heaven, what are some things we are tempted to treat as substitutes for God's presence and goodness?**

Leader's Notes: This is a good place to connect the sermon to everyday life. Possible answers might include money, career, relationships, success, comfort, experiences, recognition, political power, or control. Avoid making the conversation overly abstract. Ask what this looks like in ordinary life.

9. **The sermon describes Babylon as systems and cultures that promise us what can ultimately only be found in God, often through wealth, power, success, or moral autonomy. Where do you see these promises showing up in our culture today?**

Leader's notes: Encourage thoughtful conversation rather than political debate. The goal isn't simply to identify Babylon, but to recognize how easily Christians can be attracted to the same promises.

Follow Up Questions: Which promises are most attractive to you personally?

10. **Revelation 18:4 says, “Come out of Babylon, my people.” What might it look like for you to “come out of Babylon” without completely withdrawing from the world?**

Leader's notes: The sermon holds repentance and mission together. We are called to resist Babylon's values while still loving the people caught in Babylon's trap. The goal isn't isolation but faithful presence.