

# "A Place for You"

## John 14: 1-5

1/30/22

### Discussion Guide

*"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going."*

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

1. Jesus casts our experience of death in terms of it being like a wedding. Do most people think about death in those terms? How do most people view death?
2. How did you once view death and the afterlife and what affect did it have on your life? Has your view of death changed? If so, what led to that change?
3. Respond to this statement: *"We are on odd people. We plan for things that usually never happen and fail to plan for something that everyone knows will happen to them – death."*
4. From your experience, are most people prepared to die? If not, why not?
5. Think of all the houses you have lived in, which one approximated home for you the most? Have you ever been truly at home in any of the houses you have lived in?
6. What is home for you?
7. John Ortberg described people as having a dock and a boat. Our dock is what we consider to be home; it's where we go for safety, stability, familiarity. Our boat is our independence, the ability to be our own person and live our lives the way we choose. Describe the dock and the boat of your childhood. How did it affect your life?

Describe your boat and dock today.

8. React to the statement below.

*"Creatures are not born with desires that cannot be satisfied. If there is a desire then there is a corresponding satisfaction. A baby is hungry. There is a corresponding satisfaction: food. A duck feels the need to swim. Good news, there's water. People have sexual desires. Good news, there is a corresponding satisfaction: sex. And if I find a desire that has no corresponding satisfaction in this world, the only conclusion you can draw is that satisfaction can be found but not in this place, but in another place, some place outside our existence."*

9. Describe your journey home to God. If you haven't come home to God yet, describe your current struggle to come home.
10. What difference has the love of God made in your life?

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11. *"As for me, I will be vindicated and will see your face; when I awake, I will be satisfied with seeing your likeness."* Psalm 17:15

Are you satisfied with your life?

12. Read this description of heaven:

*"A home is a place where you belong. It's a place where you are totally accepted, where you can be yourself. The sights, sounds, smells, and colors fit. It is an open door, it's light, it's the glow of a fireplace and when you walk in, supper is ready and you are expected. When you walk in the door the smells hit you and they are delicious. Everyone rises up in joy to welcome you, glad you are home and they lead you to the table so you can sit in your seat."*

What one experience of heaven do you look forward to the most? What is your conception of heaven?

13. When speaking of the afterlife do people tend to emphasize the "new heaven" aspect of it or the "new earth" aspect of it? Share your thoughts on the physicality of the afterlife.
14. What's your favorite song about heave, the afterlife and the hope of resurrection? Play one of those songs or sing one of those songs to close your time together.