

Q10 How can we be victorious and receive our eternal inheritance?



## MU Australia Theme for 2014

### ‘God Gives Us a Future’

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#### Conclusion

One of the best known verses in the Bible, John 3v16, tells us the future of those who accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

This future is available for everyone who believes in Jesus, but to believe, people have to know what Jesus has done for them. Many in our society today have never read the Bible, and don't know anything about Jesus. Others have heard something, but rejected what they heard as unimportant or irrelevant to them.

As God's people, we are called to share our faith. It's not good enough for us to say that we are saved, and others can fend for themselves. We can't force others to believe in Jesus, but we can show them God's love by serving them and being prepared to speak about our faith, when God gives us opportunities, both personally, and as members of MU.

Let us encourage each other to persevere, especially when we don't seem to be making much headway, because that's when we need the most encouragement. Remembering Paul's words in Galatians 6 v 9-10  
*<sup>9</sup>Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*

#### Introduction

When we accept Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, we receive the promise of a future with God in Heaven for eternity, and we also receive the promise of his presence and power with us here on earth. No matter what situation we face, he promises to be with us in it, and not to leave us.

This earthly future is the one expressed so beautifully by David in Psalm 23, although David also looks past this life to eternity.

Jesus tells us more about our future in heaven, as he speaks to his disciples about leaving them in John 14. He promises that the separation won't be permanent.

In Revelation we see another glimpse of our heavenly future, as God creates the new heaven and new earth and dwells in the midst of his people.

#### Read Psalm 23 (NIV)

*A psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, <sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Q1 *What does the Psalmist say the Lord does for him during this life?*

Q2 *What are some of the ways God has done these things for you, so far in your life?*

Q3 *The Psalmist refers to both good times and bad times, how have 'goodness and love' followed you in your life?*

Q4 *Looking at verse 6, what is in store for the psalmist, and for those who follow the Lord, after this life?*

**Read John 14 : 1 - 7 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> "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?"

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

Q5 *What two things does Jesus say he is going to do? v3*

Q6 *What information does Jesus give us about the place he is going to?*

Q7 *How do we get to that place? v6*

**Read Revelation 21 : 1 – 7 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

<sup>6</sup> He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

Q8 *When the new heaven and new earth come, where will God be, and what will he do for his people? v3 - 4*

Q9 *When God says 'It is done', in verse 6, what security does this give us?*