

“I Don’t Wait Anymore” chapter 13 study outline

Endings — we all have one. One day, our story here on earth will be done, and — though it might feel slow sometimes — it will come faster than we think. How much time would you say you spend thinking about where your story is headed?

It’s possible you said *not much*. I think we’ve all been guilty of that at some points in our life (if not the whole thing). It’s easy not to think about it. And even now, while we’re thinking about it intentionally, it’s easy to also think *does it really matter?*

We’re going to end our study in one of the passages where we began — Revelation 21 and 22, the very end of the Bible. And not only the ending of the Bible, the ending of our story, if we choose to chase after Him for the rest of our days.

Read Revelation 21-22.

- What stands out to you in these chapters about the end of our story? Is it really an ending ... or a beginning?
- Look at 21:3-4, 21:7 and 22:3-5. What will our relationship with God look like when we get to heaven? When you think of heaven (if you do), do you normally think of heaven itself as the prize, or being face to face with God as the prize?
- How does it make you feel to know that He will wipe away your tears (21:4), that you’ll never face losing someone to death again, and that all of your desires will be quenched (21:6) if you know Jesus Christ and give your life to Him? When you think about the struggles we face here every day in these “jars of clay,” how does the statement “It is done!” (21:6) make you feel?
- Does it move you to worship/awe when you think about the fact that God sacrificed His Son to purchase this ending for you because of His love for you?
- In 21:7, what’s required of us to get to experience this ending (that’s really a beginning)? With that in mind, how important do you think it is for us to focus on where we’re headed on a daily basis?

When Abi and I hiked St. Mary’s Glacier, I was reminded of how easy it is to settle for what seems “good” when “amazing” is available. “Amazing” is what God wants for us — for us to know what it’s like to have a relationship with Him that makes us long for the day that we see Him face to face. It changes how we live every day when we focus on living our stories to the full, not for our sake but for His sake and the sake of the big story He’s writing in the world.

Questions for discussion:

- Be honest: What is keeping you from asking God for the story that moves you closer to Him — and from wanting it more than anything else?
- Are you willing to let go of anything holding you back?